

**P. E. I. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PRINTER RECOMMENDATIONS**

Brand:

While there are a number of printer brands in the market which perform well the Department has standardized on Hewlett Packard (HP). The reasoning is:

- a. Service: HP printers has a proven service history for both pre and post warranty service. This service is available from an Island based company.
- b. Full product line: The HP product line includes a full line of printers, from standalone inkjet printers to high capacity networked color laser printers.
- c. Cost: Educational pricing is available from local vendors.
- d. Driver compatibility: Desktop computers in schools may print to more than one printer. If multiple printers use the same printer driver, then it is one less step in configuring printers within a school.
- e. Support cost: If multiple printers of the same brand are purchased, Department technical staff will become familiar with their setup and options. This is one less factor is troubleshooting support calls.

Which printer?

Inkjet Printers

Inkjet printers use droplets of ink to form letters and graphics. Most inkjets print at two to nine pages per minute (ppm) for black-and-white text, but are much slower for color graphics. They are cheaper than laser printers, but the cost per page of ink is higher. Printing in color is costly, and cartridges tend to dry up if not used within a certain time frame. Printed pages may smear if wet.

Inkjet printers are intended for low use situations. They tend to develop paper feed problems as they wear out, usually within a couple years.

Laser Printers

Laser printers work much like plain-paper copiers, forming images by transferring toner (powdered ink) to paper passing over an electrically charged drum. Laser printers are much faster than inkjet printers, printing at nine to eleven ppm, and the resolution is much sharper. Laser cartridges cost more, but last much much longer than inkjet cartridges. The cost per page of printing is lower.

Personal Printers (Black & White Laser)

For personal printing we recommend the HP 1300 series printers. They are affordable and reliable.

Personal Printers (Color Laser)

The entry level color laser printers include the HP Color LaserJet 2500 series. This ???

Networked Printers (Black & White Laser)

For network printing, the HP 2400 series or the HP LaserJet 4200dtn are both dependable printers. The 4200dtn has a higher number of pages per month which is important for high print areas such as computer labs in Highschools.

High production Color Laser, large print format, photo, multi-purpose or specialty printers

For the minimum standards and recommendations for the acquisition of high production color laser, large print format, photo, multi-purpose or specialty printers all inquires should be directed to the Education Helpdesk (368-5500) or edu-help@edu.pe.ca