

## PRINTER RECOMMENDATIONS

### GENERALLY

As lawyers, we make a living with words. And while the dream of a true “paperless practice” took a big leap forward in recent years, whether you’re in an office, work in a hybrid situation, or are completely virtual, I expect a printer remains on your “must have” [legal tech list](#).

If you have the budget for it, you're better off buying a printer to print and a scanner to scan. However, if you need to save money, then a multifunction machine is a very economical option.

### PRINTER RECOMMENDATIONS

#### INKJETS ARE EXPENSIVE

For example, the [HP OfficeJet Pro 9015e](#) printer offers a high-yield (less expensive per page) cartridge which holds 53 ml of black ink and costs \$47. Therefore, you're paying 88.7 cents per milliliter (excluding taxes). Since there are 3,785.41 milliliters in a gallon, that black ink costs \$3,357.66 per gallon. If you're trying to save money, then spending \$3,357 for a gallon of printer ink probably isn't a good use of your money. In case you're wondering, the color ink is worse.

#### ON A TIGHT BUDGET, CONSIDER A MULTI-FUNCTION MACHINE

If you're on a tight budget, then it's hard to beat a multifunction or "all-in-one" machine. These machines will typically copy, print, scan and fax. The main drawback is that they tend to break down if you put a high volume through them.

#### PRINTING CONSIDERATIONS

- Keep in mind that your lowest cost per page is always going to be network printers designed for higher volume (or copiers which are also network printers). The highest cost per page is always going to be personal printers (small, slower printers connected directly to a user’s computer).
- Unless you have a fleet of the same type of printers, personal printers usually require you to keep several different toner cartridges in stock. This is annoying and expensive.

#### RECOMMENDED PERSONAL PRINTER

Regardless of the cost, many lawyers want their own printers for convenience. If you're in that camp, then it's hard to beat the Brother HL-L5100DN monochrome laser printer. For only \$280, you get 42 ppm performance, the ability to print front-and-back simultaneously, Windows 11 and macOS, a built-in network adapter (wired) If you need wireless capabilities, or just want the added flexibility that wireless brings, the Brother HL-L5200DW, also \$280, has all the same features as the HL-L5100DN (including wired networking), but adds wireless networking. Yes, for the same price. Welcome to the weird world of printers. Both models support AirPrint to print wirelessly from iOS devices.

#### RECOMMENDED NETWORK PRINTER

You’ve got some choices here depending upon what speed you want and how much you’re willing to pay. For example, within the Brother, Canon, and Hewlett Packard lines, consider:

- Canon Color imageCLASS MF656Cdw: Prints 22 ppm; Print, copy, scan, and fax, wireless & duplex - \$450 from Canon

- Canon imageCLASS MF451dw: Print 34 ppm, black & white only. Print, copy, scan, and fax, wireless & duplex - \$300 from Canon
- Brother HL-L5100DN and HL-L5200DW: See above
- Brother MFCL8900CDW: Prints 33 ppm; Print, copy, scan, and fax, wireless & duplex - \$650 from Brother
- HP Color LaserJet Pro M255dw: Prints 22 ppm, network adapter & duplex printing - \$399 from HP
- HP Color LaserJet Pro MFP M479fdw: Print, copy, scan, and fax, wireless & duplex - \$819 from HP
- HP Color LaserJet Enterprise M751dn: Prints 40 ppm - \$2,969 from HP (Possible accessories include the HP Color LaserJet 550-sheet Paper Tray for M751n (\$420 from HP) and the HP TAA Version Secure Hard Disk Drive, an internal encrypted hard drive for storing documents (\$500 from HP).)