

Buying Tips

Laser Fax Machines

- ✓ Resolution is not an issue for faxing, but if you want to print or copy you want to be sure that your machine can do so at a minimum resolution of 600dpi.
- ✓ The current standard for faxing is 33,600bps (33.6kbps). We strongly recommend that you get a model with that speed.
- ✓ Color faxing exists, but you need another color fax on the other end – an unlikely situation.
- ✓ Scanning to email or to PDF files are important features. In many offices, they are replacing traditional faxing.
- ✓ Toner cost for almost all fax machines is high. If you need to do more than a little printing, buy a dedicated laser printer – most have lower costs per page.
- ✓ List prices are what the dealer starts negotiating with. In the fax market, you might be able to settle for one-half the list price.
- ✓ PostScript is a nice plus, but most users don't need it on these devices.
- ✓ Fax machines/multifunctionals with printing and copying speeds under 14ppm are not very useful for anything but faxing.
- ✓ Memory is an important factor. It can make a big difference if you run out of paper or have a paper jam, especially overnight or over the weekend.
- ✓ While all fax machines can do a little copying, most are not suited for more than a few pages at a time.
- ✓ A second incoming line is useful only for high-volume offices with lots of fax traffic.
- ✓ Internet faxing and PC faxing are nice features, but many offices do not have any real use for them.