

Xstreamjet Inkjet Printer F.A.Q.s

Important facts about the Xstreamjet printer and its use

Q. Can I use off-the-shelf cartridges?

A. No, the Xstreamjet uses proprietary cartridges. However the price of these cartridges is the same as standard Epson equivalents.

Q. How many discs can be printed on one set of cartridges?

A. The Xstreamjet will print 400 discs on a single set of cartridges. This represents a 2X increase in capacity from the XpressJet II printer.

Q. How does the cost-per-print compare?

A. Using easily available street pricing for XpressJet II ink, a full coverage disc can be printed for about \$.30 (ink-only). The Xstreamjet cost is approximately \$.21 for the same disc, but by leveraging the more cost-effective continuous ink supply (CIS), the cost per print drops below \$.03!

Q. What is the CIS option?

A. CIS is a large capacity ink supply, allowing you to print over 2500 discs unattended. The supply can be refilled from liter bottles resulting in extremely low-cost per print.

Q. What is the price of the CIS option?

A. The list price for the hardware is \$800, which includes enough ink to print over 2500 discs.

Q. What is the price of ink refill bottles for the CIS?

A. The price of a refill kit is \$800. It contains enough ink to print over 28,000 discs, which equates to approximately \$.03 per disc. The kit includes liter refills for all colors and black. Individual color refill bottles are also available at \$150 each.

Q. How does the quality of the Xstreamjet compare to the XpressJet II?

A. The color saturation has been improved on the Xstreamjet, which matches the screen better than the Xpressjet II. With six independent cartridges, colors like skin tones reproduce better. Clarity of print is roughly equivalent.

Q. What are the advantages of having six cartridges?

A. With six independent cartridges, you now have the freedom to replace a single color when the cartridge is exhausted. The XpressJet II requires replacement of the entire cartridge when a single color is depleted, reducing yield and increasing cost. Additionally, the Xstreamjet provides two extra "light" colors for improved reproduction.

Q. Is resolution of the printers comparable?

- A. Yes, although the XpressJet II has a finer minimum dot size and must use more dots to reproduce a given color than the Xstreamjet printer, which can provide more colors for blending.

Q. Is the Xstreamjet a reliable printer?

- A. The Xstreamjet is the most tested product Microtech has ever created – running hundreds of thousands of discs through Xstreamjet printers during development. We redesigned where necessary to improve reliability and are confident that an Xstreamjet printer will surpass 500,000 prints in its useful life.

Q. Can I install an Xstreamjet printer on any of Microtech's systems?

- A. You can install the Xstreamjet on any Xpress product, XP, XL, or XE. It will require a new mounting plate which is included with a new printer. The XL supports two Xstreamjet printers simultaneously. Use of software release 3.11 or later and Windows XP is required.

Q. Is the Xstreamjet printer supported by DiscPrint?

- A. Yes it is. In fact, using DiscPrint is the recommended way to use the Xstreamjet printer. You can use other applications to print on the Xstreamjet, but care must be taken to properly position the content. Consult the Xstreamjet printer manual for more information on this topic.