

Lexmark X5470

Design 8.0

Features 7.0

Performance 9.0

Overall **8.0**

Pros

Good prints; affordable.

Cons

Lacks an LCD; occasional jams.

In a line

Never a bad choice, the Lexmark X5470 is a good buy.

Specifications

Price:	£5269
Print speed:	25ppm (B&W) 18ppm (colour)
Media sizes:	10 Envelope 7 3/4 Envelope 9 Envelope A4 A5 B5 Envelope C5 Envelope DL Envelope 6 3/4 Envelope A2 Baronial A6 Card B5 C6 Envelope Custom (Up to 8.5" x 17") Hagaki Card Index Card Executive Legal Letter 4 x 6" Statement L 2L Chokei 3 Chokei 4 Chokei 40 Kakugata 3 Kakugata 4 Kakugata 5 Kakugata 6 5 x 7" 13 x 18 cm 10 x 15 cm 10 x 20 cm 4 x 8"
Print resolution:	Up to 4800 x 1200 dpi
Scan resolution:	600 x 1200 dpi
Dimensions:	192 x 454 x 320 mm
Connectivity:	USB 4-in-1 card reader CF card reader
Weight:	7.8kg

The X5470 CIS thermal inkjet printer represents the intermediate member of the Lexmark X-series, just below the X7350, X8350 and X9350. And like the rest of the series, it holds on to its design philosophy like jam to bread – keeping the product performing, reliable, yet affordable. In many respects, the X5470 doesn't differ significantly from the smaller versions, and resembles the X3470 in terms of a two-line LCD screen. The X5470's build quality is better, however, and doesn't feel as flimsy as the X2470 and X3470.

Measuring 192 x 454 x 320 mm, it is average in size compared to other printers. The all-in-one printer features every need for the home office or small business, including fax, scanner, copier and, of course, print. But as the size, name and price of X5470 suggest, it definitely holds more gifts in its pockets. For normal B&W prints, the printer is capable of churning out prints at 25ppm, and colour at 18ppm. At higher quality prints, however, a 5" x 7" print could take approximately two and a half minutes to complete. But it's worth the time for the kind of prints. Except for the slight pixilation, everything from the contrast and colour accuracy is superb. Sadly the inks aren't waterproof, and even sweat can make the inks run, get sticky and leave fingerprints.

Although it does not have an LCD screen to edit photos before print, the all-in-one is more than capable of printing and copying without the need to be connected to a PC. To make up for its lack of LCD, it instead uses a 'print proof' and 'scan proof' function to select the pictures for print, which is a draft print of all the picture files on present media, detailing the pictures in the media and printing options, including automatic colour correction, and special effects like 'sepia' and 'antique'. Variations in print sizes are preset so that users can choose to print two 13 x 18cm, three 10 x 15cm, four 9 x 13cm and one A4 prints on a single piece of A4. This solution isn't problem free, as printing the draft proofs can waste a fair bit of paper and ink. And if you were thinking that perhaps the print proofs can be reused, it cannot. Picture files can be read off and printed directly via a 4-in-1 card reader, CF and PictBridge, and supports all major image formats including JPEGs and BMPs. With an adaptor it can also support Sony Memory Stick Duo, SanDisk TransFlash and Mini SD.

Scanning is the only task that requires the printer to be connected to a PC. Scanning an A4 size image takes approximately 27 seconds to complete a scan, and a copy/scan would take 38 seconds to complete. Copy prints are excellent as well, and except for the slightly faded reproductions and brownish blacks, they're flawless.

All in all, the X5470 is an excellent printer that performs exceptionally well for an affordable price.

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