

PC NEWS

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Add an affordable color laser printer to your network with the **Lexmark C522n** that wins our **Editor's Choice Award** for functionality and price





Lexmark C522n Color Laser Printer

SUMMARY: Add an affordable color laser printer to your network with the Lexmark C522n that wins our Editor's Choice Award for functionality and price

PRICE: \$399



If the price of color laser printers has kept you from considering the purchase of such an item then you may wish to consider the Lexmark C522n printer. With respectable printing speeds and a cost that's under \$400 we think you'll like the overall performance of this unit and it receives our Editor's Choice Award for functionality and price.

More than just a network capable laser printer, the C522n has both the 10/100Base-T Ethernet connection and a high speed USB 2.0 if you want to directly connect it with a Windows or Macintosh-based computer. The printer is equipped with 128MB of buffer RAM that can be upgraded to a total of 640MB. The printer is shipped with a 250-page paper tray capacity and if you want to shell out an additional \$299 you can triple that capacity to 750-sheets. Small enough to fit easily in a small-business/home-office environment its production capabilities will meet the needs in a workgroup environment as well.

It produced 18-pages per minute with monochrome black text

The amount of time it takes to print documents is always an important issue with a laser printer. Keeping in mind the low cost of the Lexmark C522n it won't print as fast as other costlier units. Still, we think the 18-pages per minute of monochrome black text is quite

additional costs in the future. In this particular area the toner supplies are average for laser printer products. When we shopped on the internet for 3,000 yield cartridges (this includes returning a previously used cartridge) we were able to locate pricing of \$110 for black and \$118 for each of the cyan, magenta and yellow counterparts. Lexmark also has high yield cartridges for this printer as well that will yield 8,000 pages for black and 5,000 for the color units.



If the speed of the Lexmark C522n meets the needs of your home, office or workgroup we think the performance and overall document quality is well worth the price of the laser printer. Searching on the internet for the best price, we found internet retailers that carry the unit for \$375. Technical specifications and more information is available on the company's web site at www.lexmark.com.

respectable. The production rate dropped only 2-ppm when we infused basic colors into the document. When mixed text and graphics together with a moderate coverage we encounter a rate of 12-pages per minute. This production is somewhat faster when we compare it other color laser printers in this price category.

The price of printing supplies is always on the top of consumer's minds as these are the items that will incur

