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When you plan to purchase a printer you must consider the expense of purchasing ink cartridges. The cartridges are a major contributor to the cost of owning a printer. For businesses which require a lot of printing, ink cartridges need to be replaced very often, which results into huge costs. To minimize these extra expenses you can practice ways which makes the cartridges last a bit longer.

There are ways by which the ink cartridges can last longer and hence save your hard earned money. You must print only when there is a need. If you can store the information in a disk then you can avoid taking prints. You must always use the print preview option. This prevents from any wrong print and hence avoids wastage of ink cartridges. You must avoid taking color prints. Documents in black and white should be printed with black ink cartridges and not with colored cartridges. The printer ink nozzles which dispense ink have a spray mechanism to spray ink on the paper. There are issues of blockages of the nozzles, hence it's wiser to clean the nozzle heads periodically.

The cartridge should be used till all the ink in the cartridge is used properly. This prevents a lot of ink from being wasted. While printing something from web you should opt a printer friendly option. This filters out all the unnecessary images. To increase the life of your ink cartridges, keep it moving by printing one or two prints every day. This prevents the ink from drying up. To save ink you must power down your printer after each use.

Sometimes there are instances of the print head getting burnt. This is because of lack of ink in the chamber which results into heating up of the chamber and the resistors reaching a temperature of hundreds of degrees.

The most important factor considered while purchasing an ink cartridge is the budget. Here there is an option between new brand name cartridges or new compatible ink cartridges. Both of these will provide the same quality and performance. When you buy a replacement ink cartridge, most often you look for expensive branded cartridge to avail warranty. But according to the law, use of compatible replacement cartridges does not void the printer's warranty. Major ink cartridges brands like Xerox, Apple and IBM have compatible replacement cartridges. The compatible ink cartridges have high standards of quality and reliability. These cartridges are economical options to high priced branded ink cartridges. Compatible ink cartridges reduce the cost per cartridge and also print cost per page is reduced.

The ink cartridges should be stored properly. Any prick in the packaging will break the seal and hence the cartridges can dry out. The ink cartridges must be refilled and recycled to increase the life span of the cartridges. The ink that flows via the nozzle works as a lubricant and coolant, hence it is not damaged. You must not try to print with an empty cartridge. This can cause the print head to be damaged.

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