Printer Ink - Technology - Rants - Geek-Rant

Written by The Geek
Friday, 26 January 2007 12:29

Whats with the high cost of printer ink? Why does my wallet run and hide when I want to go to the store to buy some printer ink cartridges??

I first noticed this problem a few years ago. I found myself in need of a copy machine, so I puchased a Lexmark All-in-one printer, with a flatbed scanner. The printer itself cost about $70. I used to for alot of copies, and then, hooked to my computer, for alot of printouts. When it came time to replace the cartridges, I was shocked to find out that the black in cartride was going to run me about $40, while the color one was about $50. That was more than I paid for the whole printer!!

So I went online and did some shopping. I was able to find both cartridges for $65. BUT, instead of buying them, I ended up buying an EPSON printer, with all the same features as my Lexmark, for $45 (including, of course, black AND color cartridges). To boot, the EPSON had newer technology, so it had a higher DPI, as well could handle more pages per minute in both black and white AND color.

So what's with the cost of ink cartridges? Why does it cost more to replace your printer ink, than it does to buy a BRAND new printer?? Ive done some research, and it is ASTOUNDING what the cost actually works out to! Ive seen comparisons that price 1 gallon of ink (by extrapolating how much ink you actually GET in an ink cartridge) to between $7000 and $8000. Yes, thats nearly 8 THOUSAND US DOLLARS.

Take a look at these items, priced per oz:

Printer Ink: $60.88 / oz
Dom Perignon: $4.53 / oz
Milk: $0.03 / oz

I dont know about the rest of you, but if buying a new and better printer is cheaper than buying replacement ink, that's what I'll be doing. But it seems like SUCH a waste!!