

Unraveling the Cost Per Page: Understanding Small Office Multi-Functional Print Expenses When Compare to Mid-Size Office Multi-Functional Print Expenses

In today's bustling small office/home office (SOHO) environment, multifunction printers (MFPs) play a pivotal role in streamlining daily operations. These versatile machines not only print but also scan, copy, and sometimes fax, making them indispensable assets for any modern workspace. However, beneath their convenience lies a crucial aspect often overlooked: the cost per page.

Understanding the cost per page of your SOHO MFP is essential for budgeting effectively and optimizing your printing expenses. Let's delve into this often mis-understood metric and unravel the factors that contribute to it.

What is Cost Per Page? Cost per page refers to the average cost incurred each time your MFP produces a single printed page. This metric encompasses various expenses, including toner or ink, paper, maintenance, and other consumables. Calculating the cost per page helps you gauge the true operating expenses of your printer beyond its initial purchase price.

Factors Affecting Cost Per Page:

1. **Toner or Ink Costs:** The most significant component of the cost per page is the price of toner or ink cartridges. Different printers use different types of cartridges, and their costs can vary significantly. High-yield cartridges may have a higher upfront cost but lower the cost per page over time compared to standard cartridges.
2. **Paper Costs:** The type and quality of paper you use also influence the cost per page. While basic office paper is affordable, specialty papers or high-quality photo paper can significantly increase printing costs.
3. **Maintenance Kits:** MFPs require regular maintenance to ensure optimal performance. Maintenance kits, which include items like fuser units and transfer belts, contribute to the overall cost per page.
4. **Energy Consumption:** Although often overlooked, energy consumption can impact the cost per page over time. Energy-efficient printers consume less power, resulting in lower operating costs.

What is the Average Cost Per Page for Small Office MFPs: The average cost per page for SOHO (Small Office/Home Office) multifunctional print devices can vary widely depending on several factors, including the brand and model of the printer, the type of cartridges or toner it uses, the quality of paper, and other operational expenses. However, we can provide a rough estimate to give you an idea of what to expect.

1. **Toner or Ink Costs:** Toner or ink costs are typically the most significant contributor to the cost per page. On average, for black and white printing, the cost can range from \$0.05 to \$0.20 per page. For color printing, the cost is usually higher, ranging from \$0.20 to \$0.65 per page.

We consider these costs as “all-in” which means all parts, labor, supplies and maintenance kits factored in to get the cost per page.

Keep in mind that the coverage (is the amount of toner or ink that is on the page) of the paper is relates directly to your cost per page. The higher the coverage of color or black will result in a higher per page cost.

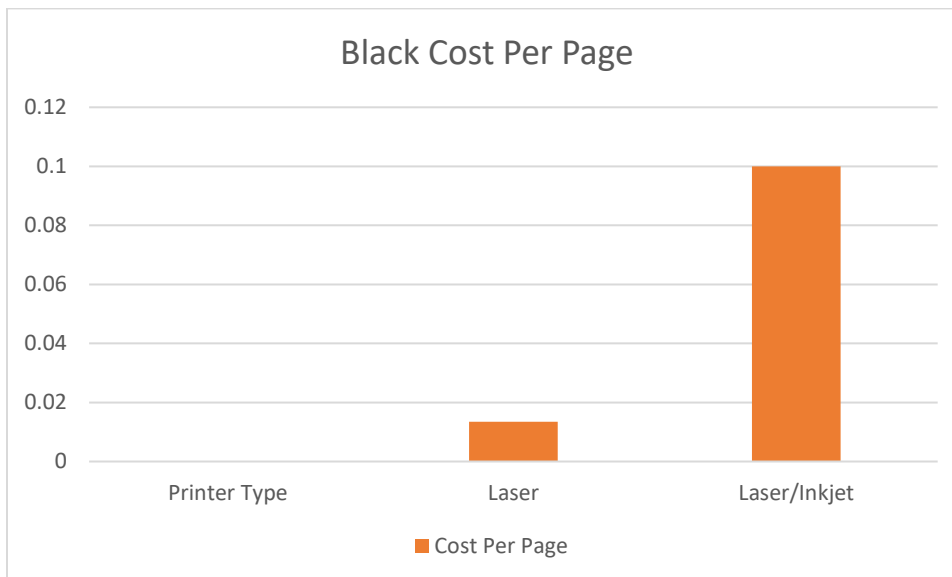
Unraveling the Cost Per Page

Annual Print Volumes Cost Per Page Example for Small MFPs:

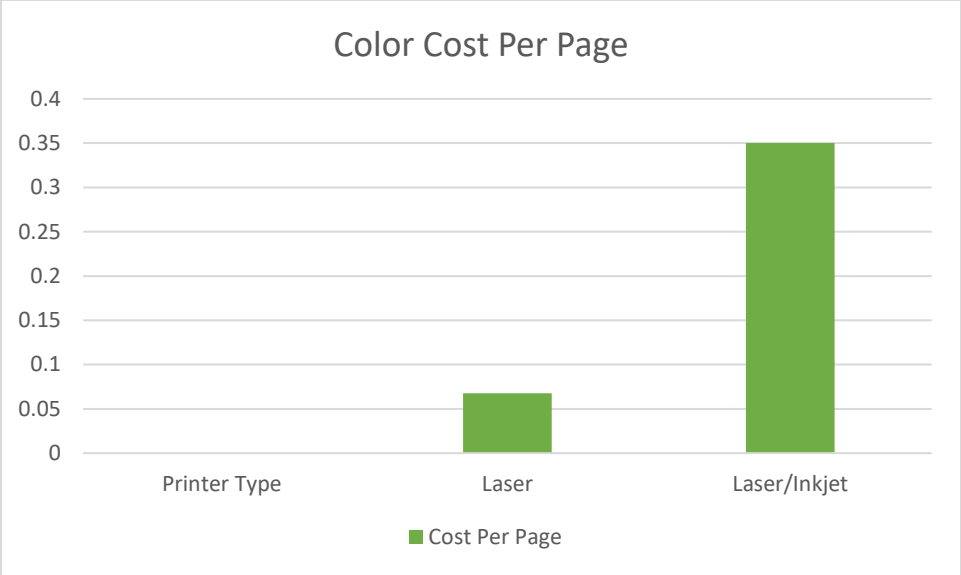
For users that have an annual volume of 48,000 black pages, the yearly cost ranges between \$2,400.00 to \$9,600. These numbers would include all maintenance, parts, supplies, and labor. Users that have an annual volume of 36,000 color pages would have a yearly cost between \$9,600 to \$23,400, including all maintenance, parts, supplies, and labor. Inkjet printers are at the higher end of pricing.

Annual Print Volumes Cost Per Page Example for Mid-Size Office MFPs (Ricoh, Xerox, and others):

The average cost per page (black) for office-type multifunctional laser print devices typically falls within the range of \$0.0125-\$0.015 per page, with black and white printing generally being cheaper than color printing.

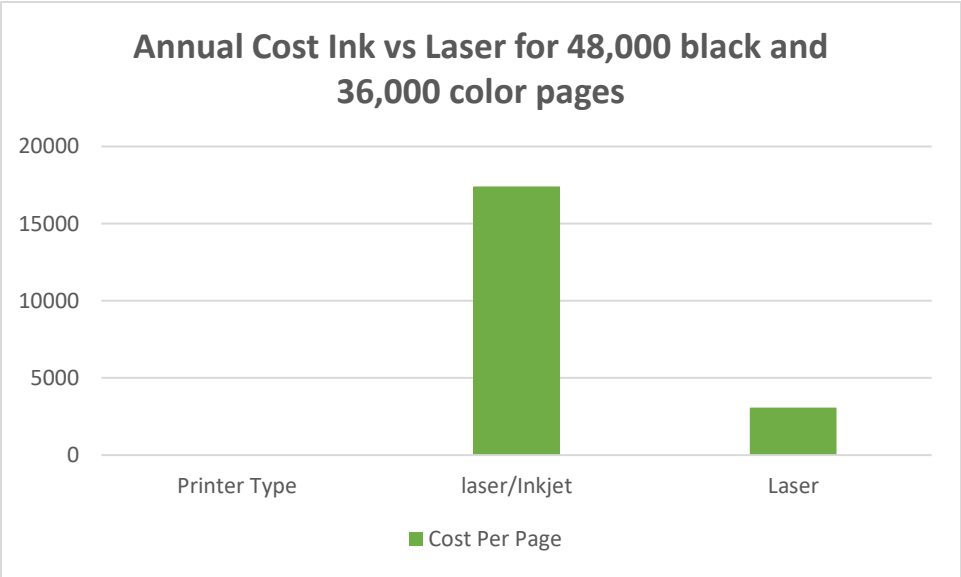


Laser Color prints will range from \$0.060 to \$0.075 per page. It's essential to know that the costs for office-style printers give you an “all-in” cost. This means everything is included except for paper and staples.



Annual Print Volumes Cost Per Page Example for Small MFPs:

For users that have an annual volume of 48,000 black pages, the yearly cost ranges between \$600.00 and \$720.00, including all maintenance, parts, supplies, and labor. Users that have an annual volume of 36,000 color pages would have a yearly cost between \$2,100.00 to \$2,700.00, including all maintenance, parts, supplies, and labor. Inkjet printers are at the higher end of pricing.



Our Conclusion:

Based on these annual volumes, businesses can save an estimated \$13,000 for black and color prints each year. When looking at a 3-year lease, the savings can be dramatic with the estimated savings at \$39,000.