

# Tips to Cut your Home Printer Costs

This free tip sheet was produced by the Cheapskates Club – [www.cheapskatesclub.net](http://www.cheapskatesclub.net)

These days it's almost, in some cases, cheaper to just buy a new printer when you need to replace the ink cartridges.

If you print a large number of items every month (and if you have students in the house then chances are the printer is going almost non-stop) then your ink and paper costs can get high. However, you can still get copies of what you need on a budget.

Consider these tips for saving on home printer costs:

**1. Stock up on paper and ink during back to school sales.** Back to school sales don't just occur in January.

You'll also see sales in the winter to

coincide with different semester schedules and the end of the financial year. Save pictures of items from websites and sales flyers to your phone so you have proof of price and can find them instore.

**2. Print on both sides of the paper and use small fonts.** Get as much information onto a single page as possible.

**3. Minimise the margins** on the page. Using the "narrow" margin option gives you

**4. Consider different ink.** Newer printers come with refillable ink cartridges. Shop around for the ink - prices vary up to \$15 per bottle. Printer ink tends to be one of the most expensive items for printing. At between \$5,000 - \$5,500 per litre and that's just for black, colour ink is more expensive, it's no wonder it's called black gold. You may be able to use refilled ink cartridges. Shop around, and if your printer is out of warranty, look online for generic ink refills.

**5. For general everyday printing, use greyscale.** Save colour printing for special print runs.

You can use your printer without destroying your family's budget every month. Instead, consider using these tips to save money on paper and ink.

