

HP's Laser Quality Speed



What is it?

Laser Quality Speed (LQS) is an HP-developed specification to enable a speed comparison of HP Officejet Pro printers to laser printers, thereby assisting customer purchase considerations.

The print speed experienced by customers from an Inkjet printer is highly dependent on many variables, including the coverage and content of the printed document. In contrast, laser print speed is much less dependent on document content and coverage. The Laser Quality Speed specification helps customers make a performance comparison between the print speeds of an inkjet printer and a laser printer.

How does it work?

To measure Laser Quality Speed for an inkjet printing device, HP prints a representative suite of documents in the printer's default quality setting (normal mode for HP Officejet Pro K550 Color Printer). The suite includes several monochrome & color documents, including pages of various text coverage, and full page graphics and image files. The speed reporting methodology averages the print engine's black and color speeds, in pages per minute, by calculating an average text print speed, and then averages that speed with the print speed of a more complex, full page document. The resulting average pages per minute (ppm) speed determine the "Laser Quality Speed" specification.

¹ Compared to color laser printers under \$500. Laser Quality Speed is an HP measurement method representing the print speed of typical office documents in default mode; compared to published speeds by laser manufacturers as of May, 2005. Test methods may vary.

HP's Laser Quality Speed measurement process is based on three important factors:

- Speed measurements use comparable print qualities. For the HP Officejet Pro K550 series printer, the default plain paper normal mode is used to generate the Laser Quality Speed specification of up to 12 ppm black and up to 10 ppm color. This is up to twice as fast as comparably priced color lasers for color speeds¹.
- Speed measurements are done over a range of document types and content.
- The measurement process is designed to avoid the influence of the host PC performance, and to represent the printer hardware, or print engine, performance.

This approach allows a more direct comparison with published laser printer ppm speed specifications. Laser Quality Speed is based on HP internal testing and methodology and is not an industry standard.

Where is it used?

Laser Quality Speed is used in product data sheets, customer education manuals, brochures, collaterals, and other customer communications meant to help customers make purchase choices between inkjet and laser printers.

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