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LEXMARK.

Lexmark CX310n Lexmark CX310dn

25ppm color 25ppm black & white



Sum-up: New entry-level machines for the small workgroup.

The new CX310 models are part of Lexmark's new line of printers and MFPs with newer features, such as standard Gigabit Ethernet, mobile printing, and Lexmark's new Unison toner. The CX310n (\$499) is the base model, while the \$599 CX310dn includes standard duplexing. Both machines print and copy at 25ppm in black and color and have a speedy first-page-out time of 12.5 seconds in color.

Processor speed is 800MHz and standard memory is 512MB. That can be expanded to 2.5GB maximum. PCL and PostScript are supported. USB and Gigabit Ethernet are standard, and Wi-Fi is optional.

Paper handling is better than you'd expect at these units' price and speed. There's a 250-sheet standard tray. For \$199, you can also add an optional 650-sheet "Duo Tray," which includes a 100-sheet multipurpose feeder. That's a potential total of 900 sheets of input — without counting the single-sheet bypass. The output tray holds 150 sheets, and there are no finishing options. There is a 50-sheet automatic document feeder. The maximum duty cycle is 60,000 pages per month, although the average usage runs from 500 to 5,000 pages.

Color scanning is supported with CCD technology. Color faxing is utilized by the 33.6kbps modem.

As with Lexmark's other machines, these MFPs utilize Lexmark's Rewards Program – a loyalty program that provides a free high-yield toner cartridge for every 10 toner cartridges sent back to Lexmark for recycling. It also provides a free imaging kit when needed.

Prices for cartridges that are involved in the Rewards Program are significantly cheaper. Based on the Rewards Program and the high-yield cartridges, we calculate the cost per page to be 2.1 cents in black and 13 cents in color.

Also new for Lexmark is its Unison toner. The Unison toner uses a separate toner, imaging unit, and fuser, a mult-piece architecture design which leads to reduced toner waste and long-life system reliability. It also prints at up to 1,200dpi for crisper print quality. And it alerts users when supplies are needed (i.e. low toner warning and number of pages left to print). Finally, it has a low temperature melt point, therefore, there is less energy consumed and lower carbon footprint.

Overall, these are excellent small-workgroup MFPs with affordable prices, competitive cost per page, and very good features. Lexmark constantly stays ahead of the curve by adding newer features but keeping prices competitive. We give the CX310 family our Innovative Product of the Year Award.



Lexmark CX310dn - New features include mobile printing, standard Gigabit Ethernet, and Lexmark's Unison toner.

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