

Information About The Epson 5100 Printer

If you are interested in printing your own accessories from digital download files, and don't know how to buy a printer that will do a great job for you, then you might want to follow what I have just researched and purchased. I just bought a printer called an Epson Expression Home XP-5100. I am quite pleased with it. The output is crisp, text is readable at a small point size, and the color is accurate and vivid. Mine cost \$79.95 from on-line WalMart.com along with a 2-year protection plan for \$7.00. I'm not using the wireless, I just don't trust it yet. Seems like another thing to troubleshoot. Spoken like a true Luddite, right?! Therefore, I'm still attached (no pun intended) to a USB cable.

OK, so it is important for me to say at this point, I am in no way associated with Epson, nor am I compensated by them. As a matter of fact, I am a bit of a rebel when it comes to supporting big corporations...I typically don't like them! I suppose they are a necessary evil. Ink is a problem for any printer. Manufacturers sell the printers cheap so they can get you on the consumables. I call it highway robbery at \$45.49 from the Epson website and \$60.49 from the Staples website for a set of Black, Cyan, Magenta and Yellow. But all the printer companies are pricing this way. I think it is a huge disservice to us, their customers, and flies in the face of

brand loyalty. So let me get off my soap box here and say, I do not advocate using the less expensive no-name brand inks, but they work just as well. You didn't hear it here, and I do not take responsibility for what you decide to use. I'm just sayin'.

Now for the most important element: PAPER! The papers I'm using are: Epson 8.5"x11" Presentation Paper Matte, 4.9 mil, Prod. No. S041062 for "light paper". Looks like Amazon.com has it for \$9.86 for a box of 100 sheets, but shop around...and don't let the search engine trick you into switching the product number on you. For "heavy paper" I'm using Epson 8.5"x11" Presentation Paper Matte double-sided, 9.8 mil, Prod. No. S041568. You can find it, for example at Amazon.com for \$11.00 for a 50 sheet box. It pays to shop around. To get the best print, you have to get the best paper! Word to the wise, do your test printing on plain paper.

The ink is colorfast when you print on these papers, which makes antique-ing your printouts very workable. Tutorial for antique-ing found in the on-line tutorial library.

That's what I have for you now. For the newsletter after next I will delve into print settings you'll probably want to replicate. Let me get to know the printer a little more. ~Ann Lenore (Dec. 9, 2022)

This test print was made by scanning four different print jobs. Therefore a lot of the detail (such as text) is lost due to scanning. However, this is a good test to see color acuity and detail compared to one another.

#1: Epson "heavy" paper, highest quality setting, using printer I used when I printed my own products for years. It was the highest standard, second only to the professional printing I currently have.

#2: Staples plain cardstock, using the Epson 5100 and quality settings and selecting the RGB color system. The text is not readable using the cardstock paper. Of course detail is lost, but pretty darn good considering the paper.

#3: Epson "heavy" paper, highest quality settings and selecting the RGB color system. Using the Epson 5100 printer. My personal favorite of the tests.

#4: Epson "heavy" paper, highest quality settings and selecting the Epson Vivid color system.

The text is readable with some strain in the #3 & #4 configurations. However, I would not use the "heavy" paper for book text pages for that reason.

