

Published based on [Taking Care Of Printer Ink Cartridges](#)

Taking Care Of Printer Ink Cartridges

We are all aware that ink cartridges don't come cheaply. This is one of the biggest surprises of the printing industry, when you get a great deal on a super printer and then get your first look at how much the ink cartridges are going to cost! It's a good thing that you can now buy remanufactured cartridges, or old empty cartridges that have been refilled for reuse. These cartridges will be equally effective in producing quality prints and will have a much lower cost. Even then, you need to ensure that you care for your ink cartridges to the point where you've maximized their lifespan.

Many people don't realize that you have to take good care of a cartridge in order to get a long life out of it. They often believe that a cartridge is designed to go until it is empty. This isn't false, but if you just follow a couple simple steps, you can probably coax more ink out. To start, you need to ensure that your hands never come into contact with the copper plate on the ink cartridge's head. The copper plates will come with a plastic covering over them to protect them from static electricity, which could damage the ink cartridge head. This will ruin your cartridge for sure.

Another tip to follow is to keep a wary eye on the papers that print out. If you start seeing lines or points that are coming out blurry, it's time to clear the head of the cartridge. Usually, printers will possess a cleaning option for addressing just this issue. Run the cartridge through the cleaning option and see if the blurriness has disappeared. It may take two or three cleanings to get it entirely cleared off.

When utilizing a tricolor cartridge, it's very likely that one color reservoir will run dry before the others do. This is a heads-up for you to tell you that the ink cartridge is getting low on ink. You'll know when this happens because the ink cartridge will still yield prints but the colors will be off or skewed in some way. Don't continue to use the cartridge after a line has run out. It's essential that you don't allow an ink cartridge to run totally dry on ink. It seems to make sense and you might want to try, but if you try to squeeze those last drops out of the cartridge, bad things may happen. Trying to print with no ink may cause the ink cartridge's circuit head to overheat, damaging the ink cartridge and printer. These tips apply to [printer cartridges](#).

Be sure to follow all instructional materials on or with the ink cartridge because many of them have different rules and protocols for installation. Also never leave the ink cartridge where it will be heated, like in a parked car, because the ink will expand and explode. If you treat your ink cartridge properly, you'll see that it'll probably print longer for you.

For more great information about printers, ink cartridges, and the technology that goes into using and working with them, check out the Ink Cartridge Blog. It's full of good information about technology and ink cartridges new, like [ink refills for printers](#).

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