

What settings should I use on my laser printer?

Because there are so many different printers and copiers on the market today some testing will be required. There are two basic guidelines to follow when using laser printers for heat transfer paper printing. The information below will help you get the best results.

Number 1

Before you load the transfer paper make sure you know which side of the paper the laser printer is going to print on. You can easily find this out by drawing a "X" on a regular sheet of paper and send it through the printer with an image to be printed on it so you know for sure which side it prints on and therefore you will know how to feed the transfer paper in. This simple test will help to keep you from feeding the transfer paper in upside down and possibly causing it to melt in the printer.

Once you have done the above:

Did the heat transfer paper jam in the machine?

Did I have to open up the machine to get the transfer paper out?

If the transfer paper jams inside the machine the first thing you need to do is run a couple blank sheets of regular bond paper through your printer to clean out the fuser.

If the transfer paper jammed you will need to adjust your settings to move the paper through the machine faster. The fuser is getting too hot at this point and the heat transfer paper is beginning to release in the fuser unit. The fastest setting is normal, bond or plain paper mode. This should allow the paper to run although it may not fuse completely. The key at this point is to find the right setting (sweet spot) that will allow you to run the paper with the correct amount of fusing.

Number 2

Did the paper run through the machine but the toner looks stringy or cracked?

With some machines you will need to slow down the print speed by changing your settings to Extra Heavy paper and use a Labels or Transparency mode if possible. This will allow the paper to spend more time fusing which in turn will make your heat transfer that much better!

How do I know if it isn't fusing?

The first sign that the toner isn't fusing to the transfer paper is the toner will look stringy or flaky on the heat transfer paper after imaging through the printer. Another sign may be the toner cracking during the peeling process (for Opaque) or possibly the finished transfer may show poor washability.

All of the above can be fixed by slowing down the print speed of your copier.