A Primer on Toner Cartridges

Intro to Paper Basics 101...

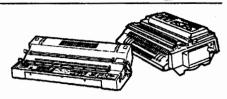
by Jim Chow

eeding your laser printer the right type of paper is part of the recipe for great output.

Some do's and don't's.

In most cases 20 lb. photocopier paper is good enough for laser printing. For desktop publishers who paste-up their output, there is wax hold-out paper from Hammermill. This paper lets you run your galleys through the waxer without having the wax soak through. Use labels and overhead mylar, such as those made by Avery, rated for laser printers. When running heavier stock through, use a straight paper path. Previously used paper may be printed on reverse side. Check for staples, paper clips and other material that may damage printer before use. Recycled paper may be used in some cases. Try some before you buy large quantities.

Don't use paper with thermographic printing on it. Thermographic printing can be found on letter head paper, it is raised plastic printing and the plastic can melt in your laser printer requiring a costly clean up bill. Avoid glossy, heavily textured, embossed or debossed, high clay or talc content, carbonless or NCR,



multipart or chemically coated paper. With offset printed paper - make sure inks are heat resistant, will not melt, vaporize or release hazardous emission - check with original printer to confirm. Any paper/ink combination not compatible with heat and pressure 200 °C (392 °F) for 0.1 second should not be used. Don't use envelopes that use pressure instead of moisture to seal the flap; envelopes with windows; envelopes with clasps, snaps, strings or any other protrusion that can damage the printer. Don't use labels that do not totally cover the carrier sheet and make sure the adhesive can survive the heat and pressure of the laser printer or copier. Now that you know what paper to use or not use - use the preview option to view your work before printing to save paper.

The author works for Mega Toner Cartridges a company specializing in remanufacturing toner cartridges and repairs to personal copiers and lasers. (604) 980-7197