

INKSAVER - A REVIEW

submitted by Jack Fischer

Did you ever have something that works, but you don't know why? That is my experience with InkSaver - software that controls the amount of ink your printer uses. Does it work? Yes. How? I have no idea!

After you load this software, via a CD-ROM, it presents a chart showing color graphics, color photos, and text samples, at various ink-savings from 0% to 75%. From this, you can choose the ink reduction you desire. I settled on a 45% savings for Black, since I could not detect any significant difference between that and full-ink. I only use color that automatically prints from ads, etc., so I wasn't too particular with that aspect and kept it at 45% savings also. Color photos showed a big dropoff in quality at lower ink settings, so I would not want to reduce the ink consumption for these.

If you tell the program the unit cost of your print cartridges, and how many you use per year, it will determine your savings at each of the selections. In my case, it showed I will save \$202.50 annually. Since the MSRP of InkSaver is \$34.99, the savings seem quite worthwhile. It should be available at your favorite software store.

This was easy to install and simple to use. I have not detected any negative aspects - just a worthwhile way of saving some money. InkSaver supports most recent models of HP, Epson and Canon printers. The packaging lists the specific models (or ask me.) No MAC version yet. For further information, surf to www.strydent.com or call them at 1-800-663-6222,