U-INK™

Manual Refill Kit Instructions for Lexmark #10, #26, #82, #83, #88 cartridges

Overview

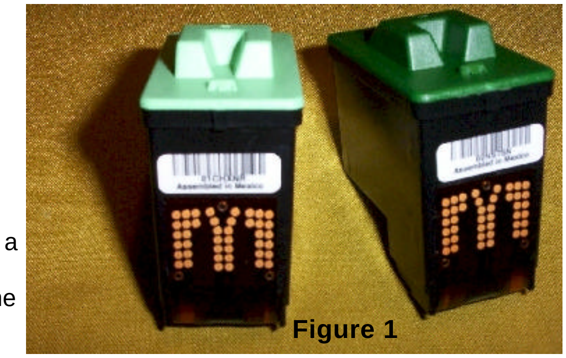
Figure 1

This family of cartridges represent the latest in development by Lexmark for their family of Thermal Drop-On-Demand printers.

While basically just a modified version of the older 12A1970 and 15M0120 cartridges they do incorporate several distinct features.

Like the older models, these cartridges can be identified by a printer using resistance measurements on the printhead. Additionally, the cartridges each carry a barcode ID located on the front (see figure 1), which permits more sophisticated printer and multifunction models to distinctly identify the cartridge. In such cases the machines may reject a cartridge which is re-installed with the same barcode or a missing barcode. It may be possible to override this feature on most machines by using sufficient cartridges in rotation to overfill the memory slots assigned to each cartridge type, forcing the machine to erase an existing ID.

Filling the Cartridges

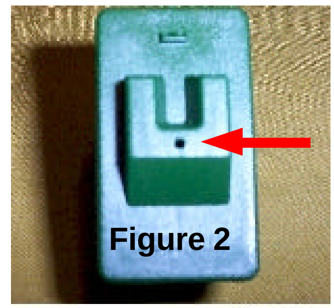
Figure 2

The black cartridge is a straightforward drill and fill process. The color cartridges present a greater challenge, since unlike predecessor designs, the retain clip used to keep the cartridge in the printer carriage is located on the cap of the cartridge and not the cartridge itself. In order to properly fill and then use the color cartridges, the cap must be removed in such a way that it can be glued back into place.

Procedure

Black Cartridges (#10, #82)

1. Place the cartridge in front of you as shown in figure 2 and use the hand drill to drill in the spot shown by the red arrow. The surface of the plastic is very thin and you need only penetrate about 1/4" to widen the hole.
2. Fill a syringe with 6 cc (6 mL) of black ink. Insert the injection needle into the widened hole about 3/4". Slowly dispense ink until either all 6 cc (6 mL) of ink is used or until the ink starts to bubble around the needle.
3. Wipe to cap to remove any ink. The cartridge is now ready to use.

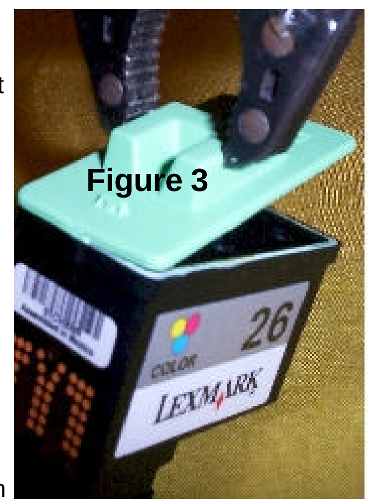
Figure 3

Technical Note: #82 cartridges may be able to accept up to 8 cc (8 mL) of ink.

Color Cartridges (#26, #83, #88)

You will need to have available either super glue or tape to re-attach the cap when you are finished filling.

1. Use a pair of pliers (we recommend a small pair of ROBO-GRIP pliers available at Sears), to crack the original adhesive seam of the cap. It might be easiest to lay the cartridge on its side (#26, #82, #88 label down) and use the pliers to grip the raised portion of the cap and using a side lever crack one side then the other. You can then lift the cap off of the cartridge as shown in figure 3.
2. Once the cap is removed you will see the original fill ports located on the top of the cartridge. Figure 4 shows the colors of each fill port. The other 3 holes are used to align the cap properly on the top of the cartridge.
3. Fill your syringe with at least 3 cc (3 mL) of ink. Slowly inject ink into the fill port, just as you did with the black cartridge, until either all 3 cc are dispensed or until the sponge in the fill port darkens. Repeat this process for each color. #88 cartridges may take up to 6 cc per color.
4. Once you have finished filling you will need to re-attach the cap. Use either super glue along the edge of the cap or a piece of tape over the Lexmark name on the cap to secure the cap. The cartridge is now ready to use.

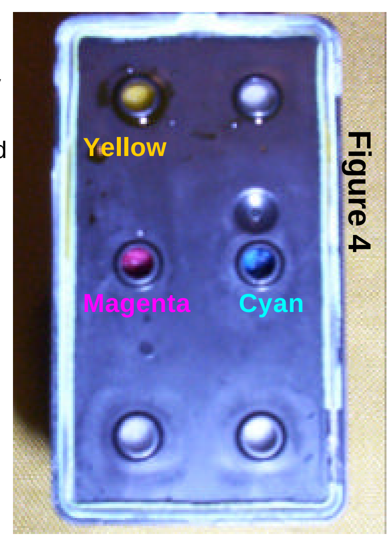

Figure 4

Technical Note: It is very easy to overfill these cartridges. If the color cartridge is overfilled it may develop odd colors from cross-bleeding inks between firing chambers. If this should happen print about 4-5 pages filled with the affected color (Cyan, Magenta, or Yellow) to remove the contaminated ink from the firing and pre-chambers of the printhead. Overfilled cartridges may also fail to fire properly, due to excess pressure on the printhead. If this is the case allow the cartridge to sit for about 24 hours on a paper towel to shed the excess ink.