

KYOCERA

Kyocera FS-C5015N

17ppm full color

17ppm black & white

Kyocera FS-C5025N

22ppm full color

22ppm black & white

Kyocera FS-C5030N

26ppm full color

26ppm black & white



Sum-up: Outstanding per-page costs make this a great choice for busy offices that output lots of pages.

These models are Kyocera's second-generation entries into the LED color printer arena. The new FS-C5015N, which is an improved version of the FS-C5020N, and like that model runs at 17ppm in color and monochrome. It features a 400MHz processor. The FS-C5025N runs at 22ppm in both monochrome and color and is powered by a 500MHz processor, while the \$2,099 FS-C5030N runs at 26ppm in both modes and has a 600MHz processor. We estimate street prices for the FS-C5015N and FS-C5025N to be around \$1,400 and \$1,600, respectively.

Except for an enhanced duty cycle on the FS-C5025N, these models are identical. They all come Ethernet-ready, and PostScript and PCL are standard as well. That makes them both serious workgroup machines. Memory starts at a very generous 128MB, and it can be increased to a total of 640MB on the FS-C5015N and FS-C5025N, and 1GB on the FS-C5030N, making these units capable of the most complex, multi-copy print jobs we can imagine.

These models have quite respectable paper-handling capabilities. They support letter- and legal-size output and come with a 500-sheet paper tray and a 100-

Kyocera FS-C5015N — This model features impressive consumable costs and an additional 500-sheet tray

sheet multipurpose tray, suitable for printing on transparencies and heavier stock. You can add up to three 500-sheet trays for a total of 2,100 sheets (except on the FS-C5015N, which only allows for one additional 500-sheet tray). Kyocera also offers an optional envelope feeder with a capacity of 70 envelopes for all three models. There are few other models with dedicated envelope feeders in the color printer market, though they are not so unusual in the monochrome market.

On the output side, There are a 100-sheet and a 500-sheet tray. You can also add a 250-sheet face-up tray. Like many other color printers, there's an imbalance between a fairly large maximum input capacity and a much smaller output capacity, though these Kyocera models do better than most. Two-sided output (duplexing) is an option as well. No finishing is offered, but that is expected at this price level.

**Editor's
Choice
Reprint**

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Kyocera products typically feature impressive consumables costs, and these machines are no exceptions. The monochrome cost per page is very good for a color printer, at 1¢ a page. That's not as good as with some monochrome-only printers, but among color printers, it's very good indeed. The color per-page costs are even better, at 8¢ a page on the FS-C5015N, 5¢ on the FS-C5025N. At almost half the industry average for monochrome and a third to over a half less than typical color printing costs on comparable models, that alone makes this printer a standout.

There are considerably faster printers in the price range of the Kyocera models, but none with as good paper-handling features. Above all, no other color printers (other than other Kyocera models) can match its price per page.

Likewise, the FS-C5030N is not the fastest at its price level (that honor might go to the 31ppm HP Color

LaserJet 4700n), but it still has stronger paper handling than some rivals and a much lower cost per page.

If you plan to use the printer extensively, and if you plan to produce lots of color pages, this is by far the most cost-effective letter/legal-size printer on the market. These machines are true standouts. The new FS-C5015N and FS-C5025N appear to be fine additions to this family that gets our Editor's Choice Award.

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