

Back To School

Tools For School Success

(NAPSA)—As Back to School time approaches, students face the daunting task of choosing their tools for success. From cellular phones to palm pilots, tech tools are becoming as commonplace in the dorm room as mini-fridges. And as the prices of tech tools continue to drop, students have the chance to equip their dorm rooms with the latest technology, without breaking the bank.

For example, a high-quality PC can now be purchased for less than \$1,000 and sometimes even under \$500. Using technology wisely, students can stay organized and connected while presenting their work in the finest way possible.

Today, producing stellar reports and papers isn't just about the content, it's also about the appearance. Long gone are the days when papers can be handwritten.

The one technology tool that can directly reflect on a student's work is a printer. A poor printer will produce a poorly printed document, making a bad impression on teachers and professors alike. Even older dot matrix or slow inkjet printers are no longer practical for today's tech savvy student who demands higher quality documents and faster speeds. With this in mind, a quality printer may be one of the most important purchases a student makes before heading back to campus.

Like slick PDAs, affordable PCs and ubiquitous cell phones, printers are now an affordable necessity. Personal laser printers used to be too expensive for students, but high-quality laser printers can now be purchased for less than \$200. A laser printer offers many advantages for the student—fast speeds, crisp-looking text and lower costs to operate than their inkjet brethren—a key point for the budget-minded student.

Consider the following tips when shopping for a laser printer.

- **Gorgeous!** Look for a high-resolution printer featuring at



Laser printers, like the Lexmark E210, offer fast speeds of 12 pages per minute and high resolutions for only \$199.

least 600 x 600 dpi to produce crisp text and the best looking documents.

- **Speedy!** Be sure to get a printer that's fast—with speeds of at least 12 pages per minute—so you can make it to class with plenty of time to spare.

- **Yield!** Check out the yield and cost of the supplies. Running out of toner at the worst possible time just isn't an option for students on deadline.

- **Compact!** Size definitely matters when shopping for a laser printer. Make sure the one you choose fits nicely on your desk without taking up too much space.

- **Handy!** Make sure toner cartridges come in one piece and can easily be replaced by someone without a Ph.D.

- **Connect!** Make sure the printer you choose has both a parallel port and a Universal Serial Bus (USB) connection for easy attachment to your PC.

- **Help!** Ensure that the manufacturer offers comprehensive technical support and warranties that meet your needs, including toll-free support and next-day printer replacement.

For more information, you can visit Lexmark International at their Web site, www.lexmark.com.