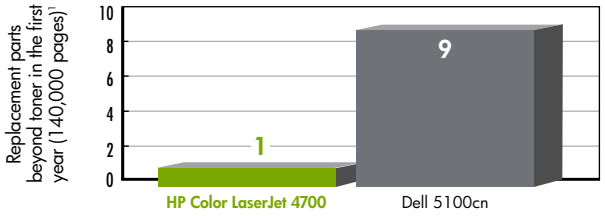
HP Color LaserJet 4700 vs. Dell 5100cn

hp

Maximize uptime and minimize interventions with HP.

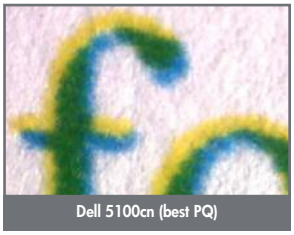


Reduce printer-management chores with HP.

Can the solution...	HP	Dell
Configure multiple devices at once?	✔	⃠
Update alerts on multiple devices at once?	✔	⃠
Deploy pre-configured drivers?	✔	⃠
Update firmware on multiple devices at once?	✔	⃠

Which printer delivers the best output?


HP Color LaserJet 4700 (default/best PQ)


Dell 5100cn (best PQ)

These enlargements of 12-point type demonstrate HP's ImageREt 3600 delivers output quality that is superior to Dell's 1,200 dpi (best PQ mode).

1 Based on the manufacturers' published product specifications, the Dell 5100cn requires a new imaging unit and transfer roller every 35,000 pages plus a new fuser at 100,000 pages, whereas the HP Color LaserJet 4700 requires a new transfer kit at 120,000 pages.

2 Based on HP testing of five Dell 5100cn printers.

3 Although Dell's specifications for the 5100cn, which is rated at up to 25 color ppm and 35 black-and-white ppm, say it slows to one-half engine speed in best print-quality mode, HP testing revealed the device can slow down to as little as one-sixth its rated speed.

4 Based on HP testing. Files were a mix from multiple applications with various levels of complexity.

Significant differences between these printers could impact…

total cost of ownership:

Fewer replacement parts — According to the Dell 5100cn's specifications, the device requires 9 replacement parts beyond toner during the first 140,000 pages vs. only 1 for an HP Color LaserJet 4700.[1] Furthermore, 8 of the Dell parts are NOT covered by the 5100cn's standard extended warranty. Be sure to consider the costs of those parts and any associated labor when comparing these two devices. Also keep in mind that users may be forced to replace parts more often than anticipated, because in our testing one Dell 5100cn imaging unit failed after printing 26,018 pages — only 75% of its manufacturer-rated yield of 35,000 pages.[2]

Reliable imaging-system design — The Dell 5100cn's developers are "permanent" components, but in our testing the developer systems in four out of five of the Dell printers failed between 25,000 pages and 60,000 pages, requiring a service call.[2] The integrated print cartridges employed by HP LaserJet and Color LaserJet printers contain the developers and drums, so you refresh the entire imaging system every time you replace toner.

Fewer management chores — HP Web Jetadmin's industry-leading fleet-management capabilities let you batch configure multiple printers at once and update alerts and firmware on multiple devices concurrently. Dell doesn't offer a utility to manage multiple devices at once, which means IT must configure, set alerts, and load balance each device one at a time instead of in batches.

user productivity:

Faster real-world performance — The HP Color LaserJet 4700 offers its best print quality at full engine speed: up to 31 color or black-and-white pages per minute. Dell 5100cn users, on the other hand, must choose between best print quality and fastest output speed because this device slows down by 50% or more in best PQ mode.[3] In timed testing, the HP Color LaserJet 4700 can print a suite of 21 files in best PQ mode in only 10.1 minutes vs. 73.5 minutes for Dell.[4]

Unparalleled print quality — As you can see in the blowups of color text, HP's innovative ImageREt 3600 technology allows the Color LaserJet 4700 to deliver results that are noticeably superior to the Dell 5100cn's best print quality (1,200 dpi). Dell has three image-transfer steps, whereas HP's single transfer step ensures Color LaserJet 4700 output has crisp text and edges and accurate color-plane registration.

Superior processing — During our testing of the Dell 5100cn, several complex files with graphics, images, and text consistently failed to print due to memory errors, meaning Dell users may have to add memory to print reliably in best PQ mode. The HP Color LaserJet 4700 did not exhibit these problems with the same files.

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 LTR version 1.3 • 11/21/05