

6 Important Questions to Ask:

How to Choose the Best CAD Plotter Printer for Your Home or Small Office



Working from home or on a hybrid schedule has become the norm for many architects, engineers, and construction professionals. With that shift, your home or small office may require the latest technologies that can help make it easy to perform at the same level.

For example, home office printers must deliver speed and connectivity professionals need to be productive. But all printers aren't the same. With different models, features, and technologies available, it is critical to know the right questions to ask to ensure you're making the best investment.

Here are six questions to help guide you in finding the CAD printer that's best for your home or small office:

1 What printer width do you need?

- **24"** for basic CAD drawings and posters
- **36"** for larger prints and plans



How to decide:

Select the printer width that best corresponds to the size of current and anticipated jobs. Plus, consider the types of materials you can create and print on your own, such as graphics and posters.



2 How many people will be using the printer and what is the associated printer speed required?

- **Several users throughout the day:** A1/D-size pages in about 16 seconds¹
- **Just a few users:** A1/D-size pages in about 22 seconds¹
- **Individual printing:** A1/D-size pages in about 31-34 seconds¹

How to decide:

Assess your current printer use and the number of people using it. If your printer frequently has a backlog of printing jobs or multiple people waiting to use it, you need a faster printer to speed up the process and improve productivity.

3 How will you primarily use the printer?

- **Single function:** Print only
- **Multifunction:** Copy, scan, and print



How to decide:

Find a printer with the capabilities that meet your needs. If you only print, a single function printer will get the job done. If you need to copy, scan, and print, consider a multifunction printer (MFP) with integrated 24" or 36" high-speed scanner and copying — there's no additional footprint. For example, with Epson MFP models, you can have scanning capabilities with no additional footprint over single function printers.



4 How much space do you have for a printer?

- **Desktop only**
- **Floor space** for a printer stand

How to decide:

Determine where you will put the printer and the amount of space available. Some printer models are desktop only, while others come with or have optional stands. Printer stands make it easier to collect multiple jobs and grab them when ready.

5 What type of ink delivery and efficiency do you need?

- **High-capacity ink cartridges** with max capacity of up to 50mL Color / 80mL Black
- **High-capacity refillable ink tanks** to help lower time spent on purchasing and changing ink cartridges



How to decide:

Consider how much printing you're doing and how often you'll need to replace ink. If you're printing high volumes of material, bigger ink bottles can help provide better value and time savings. New technologies such as high-capacity low-cost ink bottles or high-capacity ink packs can help minimize time and maximize efficiencies between ink changes when using larger capacity systems.



6 What connectivity features do you need for the space you're working in?

- **Wireless or Wi-Fi** is available
- **No Wi-Fi and/or need to print from mobile devices**

How to decide:

If you're working in a classroom or construction trailer, wireless or Wi-Fi may not be available. Look for printers with connectivity options like Wi-Fi Direct^{®2} so you can send jobs directly from mobile devices, even if there is no Wi-Fi. For high-speed connectivity, look for printers with options such as USB 3.0, Gigabit Ethernet, and Wireless-N.³ You can also print without a computer with printers equipped with USB flash drive port capability.

Epson SureColor[®] T-Series home and small office printers are powerful and compact — they can perform a variety of tasks from CAD printing and reprographics to poster and signage production.

Learn which Epson SureColor T-Series solution works best to increase productivity while meeting your home or small office needs at:

[Epson.com/plotters-small-office](https://www.epson.com/plotters-small-office)

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¹ Print speeds are based on the print engine speed only. Total throughput time for any print depends on various factors including workstation configuration, file size, print resolution, ink coverage and networking. Actual print speeds will vary.

² Wi-Fi CERTIFIED™; Wi-Fi Direct may require printer software.

³ Level of performance subject to the range of the router being used. Most features require an Internet connection to the printer, as well as an Internet- and/or email-enabled device. For a list of Epson Connect™ enabled printers and compatible devices and apps, visit www.epson.com/connect

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