The Nation's Leading Independent Buyer's Guide for Office Equipment

TOSHIBA

Toshiba e-STUDIO2040c 20ppm color 20ppm black & white



Toshiba e-STUDIO2540c

25ppm color 25ppm black & white

Toshiba e-STUDIO3040c

30ppm color 30ppm black & white

Toshiba e-STUDIO3540c

35ppm color 35ppm black & white

Toshiba e-STUDIO4540c

45ppm color 45ppm black & white

Sum-up: New mid-sized and large workgroup MFPs with strong features.

These new models, along with the e-STU-DIO6550c family (see below), are part of an overhaul of Toshiba's entire color MFP line. New features in these models include an upgrade to the e-BRIDGE software, more cloud connectivity, standard Gigabit Ethernet connectivity, and more security features.

There are five models in this family, and their copy/print speeds are the same in both black-and-white and color. The \$10,339 e-STUDIO2040c runs at 20ppm, while the e-STUDIO2540c (\$12,339) has a speed of 25ppm. The \$14,339 e-STUDIO3040c, \$18,339 e-STUDIO3540c, and \$22,339 e-STUDIO4540c runs at 30ppm, 35ppm, and 45ppm, respectively. All machines copy, print, and scan out of the box, and have optional faxing.

Standard memory is 1.5GB. An optional reversing document feeder (RADF) holds 100 sheets and performs two-sided scans.

As with earlier e-STUDIO models, these machines have an integrated controller architecture, called e-BRIDGE, built directly into the machine. Thus the copier's operating system runs all of the machine's functions — copy, print, and scan. This type of design improves multifunctional performance and lowers manufacturing costs as well. Upgrades to the e-BRIDGE system include administrative ability to manage multiple e-STU-DIO machines remotely.

The printing function supports PCL, PostScript, and XPS. Ethernet (including Gigabit Ethernet) is standard while both Wi-Fi and Bluetooth connectivity are optional.

These machines can output PDF, TIFF, and JPEG files, along with Secure PDF, and they are also XPS-compatible. Printing from and scanning to USB thumb drives is also standard on these models. Advanced scanning features include the ability to scan and store documents in the cloud (such as Google Docs).

The fax option is based on a 33.6kbps modem with JBIG compression. Dual-line faxing is available as an option. Fax routing via email is supported.

Paper handling is exactly what you'd expect on full-featured office copiers. The machines come with dual 550-sheet paper trays. They also offer an optional 550-sheet pedestal. An additional 550-sheet paper tray is available for this pedestal. These trays all handle ledger-size paper at up to 140lb. index. There is a standard 100-sheet bypass that can handle banners up to 12" x 47" and paper stock up to 100lb. cover (about 150lb. index). As an alternative to the second set of 550-sheet trays, a 2,500-sheet large-capacity feeder (letter-size paper only) is offered. That adds up to a maximum input capacity of 3,700 sheets. Automatic duplexing is standard.

The range of output options includes a 2,500sheet finisher with a 250-sheet top tray and 50sheet multiposition stapling. There is also a 3,000sheet finisher with 50-sheet multiposition stapling and booklet maker with saddlestitcher. That unit is capable of making booklets of up to 60 pages from 15 sheets.

These e-STUDIO models are also unique in offering a low-cost finisher with a 1,000-sheet capacity and 50-sheet single-position stapling. 2/3-hole-punch units are offered as options for these finishers.

Better Buys for Business EDITOR'S CHOICE

Editor's Choice Reprint

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As with the earlier series, the machines feature an 8.5" color WVGA touchscreen control panel that is very large in size and uses a well-designed series of menus and prompts for programming jobs. It can be tilted to reduce glare, and it is also Section 508 compliant. (This is the governmental standard for handicap access.)

Security features include IP filtering, disk encryption, and network authentication. Unlike older models, 128-bit secure PDF encryption is standard. Also, a new security feature includes what Toshiba calls "role based access control", which allows administrators to restrict users without having to use an LDAP server. The IPSec protocol is optional.

These machines are serious color copiers with a strong set of features. Toshiba was smart enough to build them on an already strong platform of its own making, adding features to what was already a pretty strong architecture. We give this family our Editor's Choice Award.



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Vendor Profile

Toshiba is one of the smaller copier manufacturers, but it makes solid machines, and its market share in the copier business has been on the rise in the past few years. Although Toshiba may not be among the bigger players in the office products market, overall the company is much larger than most of its competitors. Fortune rankings place Toshiba's global revenues across all product lines at about the same as those of Canon, Ricoh, and Xerox combined.

Toshiba's current color copier line continues to improve. There are currently seven machines that have been released over the last few years.

Almost all of Toshiba's color copier sales are currently through dealers. However, Toshiba has set up a company to acquire dealerships in certain markets in order to operate them as wholly owned subsidiaries. In all, Toshiba has about 350 copier dealers, of which about 70% had handled Toshiba exclusively.

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