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Ever wish you could predict the future of design? Well, scouting Maison et Objet is a good place to start. The September edition of the interiors-focused Parisian fair just came to a close, and like Fashion Week, this show is always a good indicator of what's on the horizon for design. If you didn't get a chance to make it overseas, our market director, Parker Bowie Larson, breaks down the trends that are on the rise. Photos courtesy of respective companies Bathing Beauties The summer may be over, but swimmer motifs are taking over the interiors world. From left: Le Plongeon wallpaper by Papermint; Beach life napkins and placemat by Eri Textiles; and Stinson float by The Nice Fleet. Photos courtesy of respective companies DemilunesThese half-moon shapes are appearing everywhere from lighting to vases to trays. Clockwise from top left: VICE acrylic screen and lamp base by Lucie Kaas; Glass plate by Vetrofuso; Geometric half-moon mini trays by Notre Monde; and Demi Lune vases by Tina Frey. Photos courtesy of respective companies Enamelware Outdoor entertaining and easy living seem to be on everyone's minds, and this September, tabletop designers decided to focus on enamelware. My two favorite new designs are, from left: Flashback by Kapka, which is a nod to '80s Memphis, and Marble in blush by BORNN. Photo: dining table: Gianni Diliberto; all others courtesy of respective companies Terrazzo trend, which has been cropping up in the design world frequently over the last few years, is in full force and here to stay. This composite was all over the show in a variety of products and colors. Clockwise from top left: Cocktail tables by Marc Dibeh Design Studio; Granite wallpaper by Papermint; Placemat by Persoo; o'clock Terrazzo by BMix Studio; and Flecked dining table by Troels Flensted. Photos courtesy of respective companies decided to focus on patterns, colors, and craft from indigenous people in different regions of the world, working with local artisans to support their craftsmanship. From left: Beaded Yoruba chairs by From the Tribe; Large mask by Ethic & Tropic; and ceramic lamp by Alice Gavalet. Photos courtesy of Respective Companies Concrete Evidence The industrial era is back, and concrete, the material of the hour, is popping up everywhere in different forms. Try mixing it up by adding a little cement to your home! Clockwise from left: Planters by Marie Michielssen for Serax; Puremold concrete lamp by BMix Studio; kitchen by Dirk Cousaert; and Simple light by Harry Thaler for Pulpo Design. More from AD PRO: Has Instagram Made Design Shows Better? Sign up for the AD PRO newsletter for all the design news you need to know Today's best Epson ET-2550 deals (opens in new tab) (opens i Since this printer has four refillable ink tanks instead of replaceable ink cartridges, you buy inks by the bottle, not by the cartridges, you buy inks by the bottle, not by the cartridges. But the high up-front cost makes the deal sound a little less sweet: Models with similar features cost as little as \$100. The compartment containing the four ink tanks sticks out from the right side of the unit, giving the ET-2550 a different look than that of printers using cartridges. Here, you lift a cover, revealing the four tanks, with their pop-off caps. The front control panel has few buttons and a small, 1.4-inch screen, which makes stand-alone operation less than optimal, especially since it's not a touch display. When you use the control panel to initiate a scan, for example, the screen offers no settings menu for changing the resolution. You need to do that kind of adjustment on a PC. The ET-2550 prints, scans and copies, but has no fax. Its single, 100-sheet input tray sticks up from the back of the unit, and you load paper vertically. There is no dedicated secondary tray for photo paper or other specialty media, so you'll have to swap media when switching print tasks. An SD Card slot on the front panel, to the left of the output tray, conveniently lets you print from your camera's memory card; however, you can't scan a document to a card in the slot. Print SpeedThe ET-2550 isn't particularly fast at printing everyday documents on plain paper. It printed our five-page text document in 42 seconds, or 7.1 pages per minute (ppm). This was roughly 5 seconds slower than the HP Envy 5540. Using Quiet mode, which made a moderate reduction in the noise level, the ET-2550 printed the same document in 53 seconds. Our six-page document that mixes text and graphics arrived in 2 minutes, 56 seconds, or 2 ppm, which was middle of the road. By comparison, the HP Envy 5540 printed the same document roughly half a minute faster, while the HP OfficeJet 4650 took roughly a half a minute longer. Using Epson's iPrint app on an Android phone, a page of text and graphics printed in about half the speed of printing from a PC, taking more than a minute (1:03) to print a single page. Where the ET-2550 really takes a "steady as she goes" approach is on glossy paper. A full-page color photo printed on letter-size paper took almost 6 minutes to arrive. The HP Envy 5540 printed the same photo in less than half the time. The results were similar when printing in High-Quality mode on 4-by-6-inch photo paper: The ET-2550's quality setting to standard quickened the pace to 1:16. The finished product wasn't always worth the wait, as we'll discuss below. The ET-2550's quality setting to standard quickened the pace to 1:16. The finished product wasn't always worth the wait, as we'll discuss below. The ET-2550 printed a photo in 2:13, while the HP Envy 5540 did so twice as fast. Reducing the ET-2550's quality setting to standard quickened the pace to 1:16. The finished product wasn't always worth the wait, as we'll discuss below. The ET-2550 printed a photo in 2:13, while the HP Envy 5540 did so twice as fast. produced comparatively faster black-and-white copy times versus its print performance. It made a color copy in 32.3 seconds, which was on a par with other tested ink jets. It was most impressive in making black-and-white copies even more quickly on the ET-2550, you can use its draft mode; one page of draft text arrived in 7.3 seconds, though the quality was subpar. Scanning a color photo at 600 dpi to JPEG format took almost 2 minutes (1:57), which was 15 seconds slower than on the HP Envy 5540. These times include a preview scan. Scanning will go much more quickly if you don't need a very high resolution. Scanning at 300 dpi took 43 seconds in color and 22 seconds at 300 dpi to a black-and-white PDF in 38.3 seconds, almost four times longer than the HP Envy 5540. This included a preview scan of 10 to 15 seconds, which the HP Envy 5540 did not perform in this mode. Print Quality The ET-2550 produces very detailed photos with "pop" that should please discerning photographers. But compared to the HP Envy 5540, which also produces very detailed photos with 'pop' that should please discerning photographers. The ET-2550 created prints with deeper dark shades; very fine details looked a little more depth. The quality of printed text isn't quite as impressive with the ET-2550. Letter forms were not as strong a black as those printer by the Envy 5540, and the edges not quite as sharp. That said, neither printer neared the razor-sharp text you'd expect from a laser printer. Both models made equally attractive prints of color graphics on plain paper. MORE: Best All-in-One PrintersCopy quality left a little to be desired. By comparison, the Envy reproduced colors in richer tones, and retained sharper details in its copies. Scans of photographs looked very sharp, with accurate color and plenty of detail. Ink/Toner Cost and YieldMost printers offer low up-front prices, with the costs of replacing ink adding up over time. It's quite the opposite with the ET-2550, which has a high initial price tag of \$400, but offers affordable ink in refill bottles. So how long will it take for you to save what you spent up front? Let's do some quick back-of-the-napkin math to make a comparison to the \$100 HP Envy 5540, using the page-yield specifications from Epson and HP.First, let's assume you print a lot, and that every page is a color page with equal coverage of 5 percent per color (the ISO standard). At 500 pages a month (the recommended monthly page volume for the ET-2550), it would take almost five months to save the \$300 extra you paid versus the Envy 5540. Despite the cost per page, the difference in purchase price means it will take quite a few prints before you recoup your investment in the ET-2550. For this quick calculation, I assumed use of high-yield cartridges in the Envy 5540, though I didn't include HP's ink-subscription program, which offers additional savings. Costs per color page using these specifications are 15.6 cents for the Envy 5540 and less than a cent (0.93 cents to be precise) for the ET-2550. To save \$300, you'd need to print more than 2,000 pages. Cost per black-and-white page for the ET-2550 is just 0.3 cents versus 6 cents for the Envy 5540. If you printed 500 text pages, or 10 and a half months, to recoup that \$300. So, despite the dramatic difference in cost per page, the similarly dramatic difference in purchase price means it will take quite a few prints before you recoup your investment in the ET-2550. SetupIf you've never filled an ink tank before, you're likely wondering how messy the process is. I found it simple to open the ink bottles and pour the ink into the ET-2550's reservoirs without unintentionally making a Jackson Pollock painting on my desk. I only got a few tiny drops of ink on my fingers in the process. Setting up the ET-2550 on my network was easy. The menus offer a WPS mode, in which pressing a button on my wireless router added the printer to my network. Startup TimeThe ET-2550 is fast to start up. The home screen on LCD appeared at 6 seconds, which was significantly faster than on the Envy 5540, which took almost 12 seconds. The ET-2550 kicked out its first copy at 18.7 seconds. Software The ET-2250 comes with a basic software suite for printing, scanning and copying. The Epson Connect program allows you to print and scan remotely, including a scan-to-cloud function and an email-print function that lets you send an email to the printer's unique email address to automatically print the file. Using the iPrint app, you can print from an Android or iOS mobile device, you will need to open your intended document via the app: The Epson ET-2550 does not show up in the printers list if you open a document in its native application and attempt to print from there. MORE: Best Photo Book - Photography Book Printing Services The software print driver warns against operating the printer when the amount of ink falls below a line on the ink tanks, since that could damage the printer when the printer warning, repeatedly, to check ink levels. Epson says that without damage, the permanent print head is expected to last the life of the printer. The ET-2550 offers a dramatic reduction in ink costs and produces excellent photo prints — and given their heavy use of ink, stand to benefit the most from this model's unique, refillable ink tanks. Photo print times are slow, however. And although the ET-2550 makes black-and-white copies quickly, its middle-of-the-road text and copy quality limit this printer's versatility. Today's best Epson ET-2550 deals (opens in new tab) View (opens in new tab)

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