

Which Epson Should I Convert?

EcoTank conversion planning chart + purpose-built alternative | printable reference

Epson EcoTank models are NOT sold as sublimation printers. The assessments below are buying guidance, not official Epson approval.

MODEL	SHEET FORMAT	INK	CANDIDATE TYPE	REASONS TO CONSIDER	REASONS TO RECONSIDER
ET-2400	Up to legal 8.5 x 14	4 CMYK	Budget / basic	Small transfer projects; simple setup	Few convenience features
ET-2800 / 2803	Up to legal 8.5 x 14	4 CMYK	Standard desktop	Common third-party CMYK workflow	No wide-format sheets
ET-2850	Up to legal 8.5 x 14	4 CMYK	Desktop + duplex	Office features if you also need them	Extras add little to transfers
ET-4800	Up to legal 8.5 x 14	4 CMYK	Office-oriented	ADF and fax for regular office use	Office features are not sublimation gains
ET-15000	13 x 19 via rear feed	4 CMYK	Wide-format	Large transfers with 4 ink channels	13 x 19 is not borderless; larger cost
ET-8550	13 x 19	6 colors	Specialized / verify	Photo-oriented six-channel hardware	Requires appropriate six-channel ink + ICC
SureColor F170	8.5 in width	4 CMYK	NO CONVERSION	Epson-supported dye-sub equipment	Narrower format; Epson-specific ink

Format notes: legal-size sheets may need single-sheet feed; verify driver/paper settings. ET-15000 13 x 19 uses the rear feed.

Conversion caveat: Use a clean, unused printer if possible. Confirm ink compatibility and ICC support for the exact model. Third-party ink can cause damage outside Epson warranty coverage.

Match the Printer to Your Work

Three decision steps, buying checklist, and a blank cost worksheet

1 How wide is your transfer?

Up to 8.5 in: consider four-channel desktop EcoTanks.
Need a larger sheet: check the ET-15000 and its 13 x 19 rear feed.

2 Are you comfortable converting?

No: research the dedicated F170. Yes: use an unused printer, confirmed compatible ink and model-specific software settings.

3 Four or six ink channels?

Four-channel CMYK is simpler to source. ET-8550 needs a six-channel plan; do not add standard CMYK to all six tanks.

PRE-PURCHASE CHECKLIST

- ☐ Confirm exact printer model and real sheet-size needs.
- ☐ Verify third-party sublimation ink for this model and every ink channel.
- ☐ Check the matching ICC profile / color-management setup.
- ☐ Use a printer that has never contained ordinary ink if practical.
- ☐ Read Epson warranty terms and account for unsupported ink risks.
- ☐ Budget for sublimation paper, blanks, heat press, tests and waste.

SIMPLE COST WORKSHEET

Printer purchase	\$ _____
Compatible ink set	\$ _____
Paper and consumables	\$ _____

Heat press and supplies	\$ _____
Testing and expected waste	\$ _____
ESTIMATED STARTUP TOTAL	\$ _____

Sources and limitations: Epson product specifications and model manuals; Epson warranty exclusion for damage from other ink systems. These are unofficial conversion considerations. See [epson.com](https://www.epson.com) and the full article at subligeniusprint.com for manufacturer links and context.