

Epson ET-8550 vs ET-15000

Buying Checklist + Cost Worksheet | Use current local prices and your actual ink/profile costs.

Known hardware difference:

ET-8550 = 6 physical ink channels; ET-15000 = 4-channel CMYK.

1. PRINTER + CONVERSION COST WORKSHEET

Cost item	ET-8550	ET-15000
Printer price		
Sublimation ink set		
Sublimation paper starter pack		
ICC profile / custom profiling		
Test blanks / test materials		
Maintenance supplies		
Shipping + tax		
Other setup costs		
TOTAL STARTUP COST		

2. MONTHLY OPERATING COST ESTIMATE

Cost item	ET-8550	ET-15000
Ink		
Sublimation paper		
Test / wasted prints		
Maintenance		
Replacement blanks from failures		
Other recurring cost		
TOTAL / MONTH		

3. COST PER SALEABLE PRINT

Estimated monthly printing cost: \$ _____

Estimated saleable prints per month: _____

Estimated print-only cost per saleable transfer: \$ _____

Add blank, labor, pressing, packaging, and overhead separately.

ET-8550 vs ET-15000 Workflow Checklist

Use this page to compare print-size, ink, color-management, maintenance, and support requirements.

A. PRINT SIZE + MEDIA

- ☐ I need prints up to 13 x 19 inches.
- ☐ I specifically need borderless 13 x 19 output.
- ☐ My normal products actually benefit from wide-format transfers.
- ☐ I have space for a wide-format printer and rear-feed workflow.

B. INK + COLOR WORKFLOW

- ☐ My ink supplier explicitly supports the printer I am considering.
- ☐ For ET-8550, I have a documented 6-channel sublimation ink plan.
- ☐ For ET-15000, a standard 4-color CMYK workflow fits my needs.
- ☐ A matching ICC / color-management method is available.
- ☐ I can reorder the same ink later and keep the setup consistent.

C. MAINTENANCE + SUPPORT

- ☐ I am comfortable running nozzle checks before changing color settings.
- ☐ I understand more ink channels mean more channels to diagnose.
- ☐ I accept that third-party sublimation ink is outside Epson's stock-ink workflow.
- ☐ I have compared the support trade-off with a dedicated sublimation printer.

D. QUICK DECISION NOTES

ET-8550 makes more sense when:

- A compatible 6-channel sublimation workflow is available.
- 13 x 19 borderless output matters to your broader printing work.
- You are comfortable managing more color variables and channels.

ET-15000 makes more sense when:

- You want a simpler 4-channel CMYK conversion architecture.
- Standard 13 x 19 transfer capability is enough without 13 x 19 borderless.
- You prefer fewer ink channels to map, maintain, and troubleshoot.

Final Buying Decision

Record the choice only after checking price, ink compatibility, color workflow, and the products you actually make.

1. MY REQUIREMENTS

Maximum transfer size I need: _____

Need 13 x 19 borderless? Yes / No

Preferred ink workflow: 4-channel CMYK / 6-channel / Unsure

ICC / color-management source: _____

Estimated monthly print volume: _____

2. FINAL COST CHECK

ET-8550 total startup cost from page 1: \$ _____

ET-15000 total startup cost from page 1: \$ _____

Difference: \$ _____

Current purchase price checked on: _____

3. FINAL SELECTION

Printer selected: ET-8550 / ET-15000 / Neither yet

Main reason: _____

Ink / profile supplier: _____

Where I plan to buy: _____

4. NOTES
