

# Are You Being Served?



Robert van de Voort finds multi-tasking is a cinch with Epson's latest offering



The Epson RX630 is an efficient photo printer with a few added extras that make it a very desirable unit.

Epson calls it a 'copy centre' and that is not far from the mark. It is a rather substantial machine that is a breeze to set up and operate thanks to easy-to-follow instructions. Within five minutes I was printing from my PC!

## QUALITY ADJUSTMENT

The RX630 offers many printing modes. I prefer the Professional setting, as the Auto mode delivered quickly an average quality print, but did not pull everything out of the image.

Five inks are used: black, cyan, light cyan, magenta, light magenta and yellow, giving realistic colour reproduction.

Many adjustments are possible from the properties menu. These, along with the supplied software, can produce stunning results. And with a little tweaking, photographers will find the menu more than adequate to produce quality prints.

## PRINT DIRECT

You can print directly from a memory card; a slot in the front of the RX630 provides for easy access and can be closed when not in use, ensuring it stays dust-free to protect the electronic contacts – a nifty solution!

Alternatively, if you want to print directly from camera instead of memory card, hook up your USB camera cable to the printer, or use PictBridge or your Bluetooth connection.

## SIMPLE STEPS

When printing from your memory card, the large two-inch LCD screen goes through all the necessary steps.

You do not need your PC/Mac, as you can easily download from memory card to your computer for more editing later. Included software also lets you email your shots to family and friends.

**“You can print directly from a memory card... or use PictBridge...”**

## SCANNING OPTIONS

You can scan in three modes: Auto, Home and Professional. I would definitely recommend the last mode for best results. Fully Auto does not recognise transparency film, only colour negative. Home mode gives many options and Professional is indeed that – very professional.

The RX630 has a built-in transparency unit to scan a six-exposure filmstrip or scan four mounted 35mm transparencies. Placing the filmstrip inside the holder is straightforward and holds firm, but mounted transparencies don't sit firmly. I also found the heat of the backlight causes film to curve a little.

Epson told me that this demo model had been shipped all over New Zealand, so I have a feeling that this has caused a misalignment in the focus lock for film, because I was unable to get the trannies in full focus.

## COPY THAT!

Copies from thick books are no problem with the RX630. The lid lifts off and you can place your book on the copier without restraint. No fiddling is required to keep the lid on top of the book either.

Adjust your settings to make your copy the way you want it: the Auto Instant preview shows the changes as you make them.

## CONCLUSION

Overall, I'm impressed with the versatility, quality and features of Epson's 'copy centre'.



## EPSON RX630

**\$649**

- + Excellent flatbed copier, almost professional quality colour images, extensive and user-friendly software
- Average holder for mounted trannies

Design	★★★★★
Features	★★★★★
Performance	★★★★★
Print Quality	★★★★★
Value for Money	★★★★★

OVERALL RATING ★★★★★

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