

# Step-by-Step Instructions

(PRINT this set of instructions to follow every time you refill your cartridge)

## Epson SO20136 and SO20138 Cartridges



**Items needed:** Black dye, cyan, magenta, and yellow inks, paper towels, gloves, aluminum tape, refill station # 2, Aluminum Flat tape plugs, Review hints & tips and check list.

**Syringe:** Attach needle tip (located inside station # 4) to the syringe tightly. Unscrew lid on ink bottle. Puncture silver seal with needle tip making a small hole in the center of seal. Pull the correct amount of ink into the syringe. Rinse syringe and needle tip after every use and before using syringe with another color. Rinse syringe and needle tip with water until the water runs clear.

## Cartridge Logic

The ink in this cartridge is retained because the cartridge has an internal sponge.

**For best results, never leave your Epson printer without an installed cartridge -- even an empty one -- for more than an hour or so, because the ink -- the original or our refill ink -- will begin to gel to the consistency of honey, which will require multiple cleaning routines to clear.**

The most likely problem is that you might have is an air bubble in the exit tube of your cartridge. Remember that the absence of ink is the same as an air bubble. You can confirm that this is the problem if the printhead cleaning routine actually makes the problem worse.

What is happening is that a small air bubble expands under the vacuum of printing to form a large air bubble, which blocks the flow of ink to the printhead. This problem usually occurs after printing 1 or 2 good pages.

To clear the problem, you may wish to let the printer sit without printing for several minutes, while tapping on the top of the cartridge. This may get the air bubble to move to the top of the cartridge. It may not.

Another idea is to remove the cartridge and try again. Also, try putting a single drop of ink directly into the point where the cartridge is plugged into. But be very careful not to spill the ink!

## Black & Color Cartridge

### Instructions

Put the cartridge on some paper towels inside station # 2 in an area where you can tolerate a spill.

1. Locate the black rubber seal(s) on the bottom of the cartridge.
2. Seal the outlet hole(s) in the base of the cartridge with tape. A separate piece over each hole is preferred.
3. S-l-o-w-l-y release thru the syringe 5 ml of ink into each of the four fill-holes. If ink begins to “bubble” out of the fill-hole, remove syringe tip. Bubbling occurs when a cartridge is either over-filled or if ink is being inserted too quickly. Wait several minutes and then try to s-l-o-w-l-y insert more ink. If ink begins to bubble out the fill hole or leak from the printhead, you have plenty of ink in the cartridge.
4. Push needle through the label into the sponge of the correct filling hole. From left to right the colors are BLACK - **CYAN** - **MAGENTA** - **YELLOW** (You can check each hole with a toothpick if you are not certain of which color goes into each hole) Very s-l-o-w-l-y inject ink into the sponge until the cartridge is full. A little ink might come out of the top when full, so cover up the other three holes while filling one.
5. When finished, seal the Filling Holes made in the top label with tape. If the holes are not sealed properly the cartridge will leak.
6. **Important** - Next, remove the tape from all exit ports.
7. Replace the cartridge and run 1 - 3 cleaning cycles as per printer instructions. Or print 2 pages at this test site:  
<http://www.inkonline.net/support/colorinktest>    **Color Ink Test**  
<http://www.inkonline.net/support/blackinktest>    **Black ink test**

For best results, leave cartridge in printer for 8 hours after refilling so the ink can saturate the entire sponge. NOTE: If cartridge is refilled before it is completely empty this time is greatly reduced.

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