

## Modern Printing with Microsoft and Sharp



Sharp printers support modern printing workflows through deep integration with Microsoft's latest technologies, including the Sharp Print Support App (Sharp PSA), Windows Protected Print Mode (WPP) and Microsoft Universal Print.

By leveraging the native, driverless WPP pipeline and Sharp PSA-based extensions, Sharp printers can deliver advanced finishing, security and device-specific features without traditional print drivers. At the same time, Sharp's Microsoft Universal Print ready models and those connected via the Microsoft Universal Print connector, allow printers to be registered directly to the Microsoft 365 cloud so users can print securely from anywhere using their Entra ID accounts, while IT centrally manages queues, access and policies through Microsoft 365 and Entra ID.

### Sharp PSA and WPP

Sharp currently supports Microsoft's modern driverless print stack through the **Sharp Print Support App (Sharp PSA)** and can also work in environments using **Windows Protected Print Mode (WPP)**.



#### What is the Sharp PSA

Sharp provides the Sharp Print Support App (Sharp PSA) that integrates with Microsoft's PSA framework to enable driverless printing to PSA ready printers.

- The Sharp PSA layer adds capabilities beyond the generic IPP class driver, including advanced paper handling, media selection and device specific finishing options (staple, punch, etc.).
- It is distributed via Windows mechanisms, and once a PSA-ready Sharp MFP is added, the app installs and exposes these enhanced features to users. For instructions on how to set up the Sharp PSA, refer to the [Sharp PSA manual](#).



#### What is WPP

Sharp currently supports Microsoft's modern driverless print stack through the Sharp Print Support App (Sharp PSA) and can also work in environments using Windows Protected Print Mode (WPP).

Windows Protected Print Mode (WPP) is Microsoft's new secure print platform that blocks third-party kernel drivers and focuses on IPP based, driverless printing.

- WPP builds on the IPP/PSA stack, so Sharp devices that support IPP and the Sharp PSA work in the WPP environment.
- WPP provides a secure driverless environment. The Sharp PSA provides the specific feature set (finishing, media, color modes) in the WPP foundation.



Visit the [Sharp Microsoft Universal Print](#) page to learn more.

## Print Feature Comparison

| Features         | Windows Protected Print Mode (WPP)                 |                                             | Sharp Printer Driver (PCL)                                      |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
|                  | IPP Class Driver                                   | Sharp Print Support App (Sharp PSA)         |                                                                 |
| Color Mode       | Yes                                                | Yes                                         | Yes                                                             |
| Collate          | Yes                                                | Yes                                         | Yes                                                             |
| Original Size    | N/A                                                | Yes - Custom size is not supported          | Yes - Custom size is supported                                  |
| Output Size      | Custom size is not supported                       | Yes - Custom size is not supported          | Yes - Custom size is supported                                  |
| Paper Type       | N/A                                                | Yes                                         | Yes                                                             |
| Paper Tray       | Yes                                                | Yes                                         | Yes                                                             |
| Orientation      | Portrait / Landscape                               | Portrait / Landscape                        | Portrait / Landscape / Portrait (Rotated) / Landscape (Rotated) |
| Zoom             | Fit / Fill                                         | 25-400%                                     | 25-400%                                                         |
| 2-Sided Printing | Long edge / Short edge                             | Long edge / Short edge                      | Long edge / Short edge                                          |
| Booklet          | N/A                                                | Yes                                         | Yes                                                             |
| N-Up             | 2-Up / 4-Up / 8-Up                                 | 2-Up / 4-Up / 8-Up                          | 2-Up / 4-Up / 6-Up / 8-Up / 9-Up / 16-Up                        |
| Staple           | 1 Staple / 2 Staples / Saddle Stitch               | 1 Staple / 2 Staples / Saddle Stitch        | 1 Staple / 2 Staples / Stapleless / Saddle Stitch               |
| Punch            | 2 / 3 / 4                                          | 2 / 3 / 4 / 4 (Wide)                        | 2 / 3 / 4 / 4 (Wide)                                            |
| Offset           | N/A                                                | Yes                                         | Yes                                                             |
| Document Filing  | Jobs with PINs can be saved to the default folder. | Hold Only / Hold After Print / Sample Print | Hold Only / Hold After Print / Sample Print                     |
| Print release    | N/A                                                | Yes                                         | Yes                                                             |
| Watermark        | N/A                                                | N/A                                         | Yes                                                             |

## Microsoft Universal Print and Sharp Printers

Sharp supports Microsoft Universal Print in two main ways: with **native (Universal Print ready) MFPs** and via the **Microsoft Universal Print** connector for older or non-ready models. Microsoft Universal Print gives you centralized print management, driverless deployment and security improvements. Using the Sharp PSA, users can gain added print capabilities in the Microsoft Universal Print environment. The Sharp PSA delivers the rich feature set that is used to live in traditional print drivers aligned with Microsoft's new print architecture.

- Universal Print manages print queues in the cloud, removes driver dependencies and uses IPP printing from Windows and other platforms.
- The Sharp PSA is a small app that plugs into Microsoft Universal Print's modern print pipeline on the client PC and exposes device specific capabilities: finishing, secure print, accounting, authentication etc.

### How it Works

- The printers are registered with Microsoft Universal Print, and IT can make the printers available to users.
- When the user prints, Windows can use the IPP class driver for the basic job, or if a Sharp PSA is associated with the printer, the advanced job options will become available.
- The Sharp PSA can offer various print options (staple, hole punch, secure release, account codes, etc.) while the core printing and security are handled by Universal Print.

### Printer Association and Deployment

- The Sharp PSA is automatically used when the printer's profile meets the requirements — such as model support, PSA capability flags and other matching criteria.
- A Universal Print Connector option (installed on a PC) is available for printers that do not support direct connect.



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