

100% Carbon Inksets Using MIS Associates' Materials

www.PaulRoark.com

[Epson R800 and R1800 -- The First Photo Quality Black-Only Approach](#)

The Epson R1800 was the first printer of interest to have the tiny 1.5 picoliter drop size that allows printing relatively smooth prints while only using concentrated inks. This allows Eboni MK to print relatively neutral images on many matte papers. The "3-MK" workflow on the 1800 also allows full color printing. The main weakness of this approach is that for some images even the 1.5 pl droplets are not quite as smooth as some would like. Additionally, there is no wide format, 24" or larger printer with small enough droplets to use this approach.

For more information on this 1800 "3-MK" workflow, [click here](#). See also the February 2008 issue of Shutterbug magazine, reproduced [here](#).

Although I have not tested the 1900 with this workflow, it should work very well.

Eboni pigment prints made with the 1800 have are being tested by Aardenburg Imaging & Archives and have turned in the best test results by far. See [AI&A fade test results](#). These are listed under Epson 1800, MIS Associates "Eboni" MK. Membership in and access to the AI&A test results is currently free to all.

The 1800 3-MK approach and profiles can be ported to the Epson 1400 rather easily by anyone who knows how to re-linearize QTR profiles.

The 1400, with several inksets, appears to bring top notch 13" wide printing to a more affordable level, and it is now my primary printer, except, of course, where the 13 inch wide paper limit is too small. The Eboni-6 inkset, discussed below, or variants of it, is currently on my 1400 and what I recommend most highly and will support most going forward.

[Eboni-6 Inkset -- For Smooth 100% Carbon Pigment Prints from Most Epson Printers](#)

Most desktop printers aside from the 1400 and 1800/1900, require dilute inks to make smooth prints. Even the 1.5 picoliter printers noted above print more smoothly

with dilute inks. The MIS Eboni-6 inkset is composed of dilute Eboni MK and produces very smooth prints. The "Carbon-6" inkset discussed further below is an open-source version of Eboni-6. These inksets support multiple workflows, making near neutral to medium warm images, depending on the paper, printer and workflow used.

MIS sells the dilute Eboni both [in bottles](#) and [in pre-loaded Epson 1400 cartridges](#).

For details on the "Eboni-6" 100% carbon pigment inkset, [click here](#). Eboni-based inksets have been used by me for about 4 years and been the most clog-free inksets I've ever used.

For the C88+ version of Eboni-6 and Carbon-6, [click here](#). A C88+ with Carbon-6 is about the least expensive and easiest to care for B&W printer possible. And the images are 100% carbon pigment; so they'll have state-of-the-art stability. Just remember to agitate the CIS if one is used. My non-technical daughter is in her third trouble-free year at college with a C88+ and CIS with C6 "EZ" in it -- all year on a single initial fill.

[Eboni-4 Inkset and Epson 1100 -- the least expensive 13" printer](#)

Eboni-4 is a classic quadtone arrangement of Eboni-6 in the Epson WorkForce 1100, which is the least expensive 13" printer, on sale for \$130. For more on this latest printer to be set up with Eboni-6, [click here](#).