

R1800 Ink Positions and Costs

Although the 8 channels of the R1800 allow many alternatives, the one discussed here prints B&W and full color on matte paper.

Color images are printed using the standard OEM or third party R800 color pigments. The standard Epson driver is used, as are standard ICCs, including those supplied by Epson with the driver. The R800 color pigments and carts are placed in the standard **OEM color ink positions**.

Matte Black (MK), MIS Eboni pigments are put in **3 positions: MK, PK and GL**.

The carbon pigment that I have used that is most suitable for this approach is the MIS Associates "Eboni" matte black. It is readily available, relatively neutral (unlike Epson's matte black), affordable, extremely lightfast, and has an excellent dmax.

MIS pre-filled carts of Eboni MK in the PK and GL (or "Glop") positions can be found at http://www.inksupply.com/r1800_bo.cfm .

For the lowest possible ink costs, I highly recommend the purchase Eboni in bulk bottles and refilling of the cartridges. Not only does the ink cost drop to about 1/10th the cost of Epson ink on a per volume basis, but also the high density Eboni gives many times more prints per volume than does an inkset composed of dilute inks. By using bulk Eboni and this workflow, ink costs become trivial.

For the empty carts with the appropriate chips and bulk Eboni can be purchased via the links, see http://www.inksupply.com/epsoncarts_xx.cfm and http://www.inksupply.com/r800ink_org.cfm .

In general, the profiles that I've made are for Eboni in the MK, PK and GL spots, and standard color pigments in their usual positions. These profiles are now pre-installed in QuadToneRip (versions 2.5.2.0 and newer) and are also, in a zip file that can be downloaded.

While B&W + color probably makes the most sense for most users, dedicated B&W printers might want to use other ink arrangements. For example, 3 Eboni and 5 cleaning fluid carts might have an advantage for long term, reliable operation. Which 3 jets are used is easily changed in QTR, thus allowing continued operation with cleaning if a jet clogs. Dedicated B&W printers who want pure carbon but warmer images can include dilute carbon inks and photo black for glossy printing. Additionally, although I have not tested it, I assume the UT-RC inksets which I recently made for the R260 family or printers should work well in the R1800 if appropriate QTR curves are used. (The UT-RC inkset will not print with the Epson driver due to the blue and red ink differences between

the R260 and R1800.) See <http://www.paulroark.com/BW-Info/R260.htm> for information on the UT-RC inkset for the R260.