



How do Epson's wireless printing connections compare?

Epson offers two wireless printing devices, allowing supported Epson printers to print without cables through a radio connection. One supports the IEEE 802.11b standard, and the other supports the Bluetooth™ standard. What are the differences between the Bluetooth Print Adapter from Epson and the EpsonNet 802.11b Wireless Print Server?

- ▶ **802.11b technology** is a wireless Ethernet standard which supports transfer rates of up to 11 Mbps, and network printing up to a distance of 300 feet (depending on environmental conditions.)
 - 802.11b technology is a network cable replacement, which allows multiple users to share a printer using wireless technology similar to using a wired network.
 - The EpsonNet 802.11b Wireless Print Server is only available bundled with the EPSON Stylus C80WN and is currently not sold separately.
- ▶ **Bluetooth technology** offers printer-to-computer connectivity via low power, short-range radio frequency up to a distance of 33 feet.
 - This technology is a USB/serial cable replacement and does not allow printer sharing.
 - The Bluetooth Print Adapter from Epson is an external device that plugs into the parallel port of many Epson's printers.

Did You Know?

These are the main differences between Bluetooth and 802.11b:

Feature	Bluetooth Print Adapter from Epson 	EpsonNet 802.11b Wireless Print Server 
Speed	721Kbps (1/16 as fast as USB 1.0)	11Mbps (about as fast as USB 1.0)
Range	Up to 33 feet	Up to 300 feet (depending on environmental issues)
Connection	Point to point	Full network
Printing applications	Text, low-res graphics	Anything
Impact on battery life	Small: impacts battery life by less than 10%	Large: is recommended for use with stationary devices or those with high capacity batteries
Target platforms	Handhelds (PDAs), cell phones, laptops, cars, radios, headsets, etc.	Networked computers, primarily laptops
Compatible Epson printers	EPSON Stylus C60/C80, EPSON Stylus Photo 820/890/1280	EPSON Stylus C80WN

Interesting Note



WiFi™ is a standard compatibility test protocol established by the Wireless Ethernet Compatibility Alliance (WECA). Epson's EpsonNet 802.11b Wireless Print Server has passed this test, which allows Epson to use the WiFi logo.