



Brother hl-5250dn toner light stays on

The Brother HL-5250DN is a network ready monochrome laser printer with built-in duplexer to print on both sides of your paper. The standard paper tray holds up to 250 sheets and can accomodate plain, recycled or bond paper as well as transparencies. Print speeds reach up to 28ppm and this small-office laser delivers crisp, clean text documents with good character definition. Replacing toner cartridges for the HL-5250DN is easily achieved by removing the drum assembly from the front of the printer. You may have more difficulty finding your replacement Brother HL 5250DN toner cartridge at a reasonable price. However, there is an alternative to your out of stock electronics store and inflated high street prices. It is called Cartridge Save. We stock the full range of supplies for the Brother HL5250DN laser printer at discount prices so whether you require an original Brother cartridge or a cheaper compatible version we can meet your needs. Free Delivery On All Brother HL 5250DN CartridgesWhy pay more for your Brother laser toners? We offer free delivery as standard so you should look no further to find the best price on your printer cartridge. Furthermore, every customer is given extra security with our no quibbles return policy which protects against faulty cartridges or incompatibility with our listed printers. Forget about taking risks and make sure you get the best customer care by placing your order here at Cartridge Save. The Brother HL-5250DN uses Cartridge Save TN3130 toner cartridges. Cartridge Save TN3130 toner comes in black; the black cartridge prints 3,000 pages. The Brother HL-5250DN is a monochrome, network-ready laser printer with an integrated duplex feature. The built-in Ethernet capability makes it extremely versatile, which is vital when integrating it with an existing workgroup or even multiple workgroups. The HL-5250DN comes standard with 32 MB of memory, which is enough for most users, but which demanding users can expand up to 544 MB. It produces 30 pages per minute at 1,200 x 1,200 dpi, has a 250 sheet capacity, a 50 sheet multipurpose tray, and it supports a wide range of jobs including brochures and double-sided printing. Brother's HL-5250DN employs a small, boxy design and minimalist light grey on charcoal grey colour scheme. The unit is small, lightweight and compact, which make it easy to place. But it feels like a home printer even though is definitely sophisticated enough for office use. It does not have an LCD display or a keyboard, and the control panel is simply a small area at the corner of the machine. This can be difficult to use if you have to use it often, but there is also a software interface accessible from your PC, Mac or Linux computer. Advantages to provide extremely high quality printing at an incredibly low cost. And unlike so many other seemingly under-priced machines, you get the added benefit of low-cost Brother HL-5250DN toner cartridges. The other advantage is speed. This lightning quick machine easily puts out 30 pages per minute while similarly priced machines are struggling to churn out 20 pages. And if you need to print out particularly complex documents, you can expand the unit's memory from the default 32 MB all the way up to 544 MB.Disadvantages The biggest disadvantage to the Brother HL-5250DN is that it holds a maximum of 300 pages. This is fine for home use, but it can present problems for small office environments, and there is no support for multi sheet paper. This is a shame since this is otherwise small office performance at a home user price. You can purchase additional trays, but then there is still some swapping involved. The other disadvantage is the lack of multifunction. At this price point, you can purchase a printer that includes copy, fax and scan functionality. However, those models do even remotely achieve the same level of print guality that the HL-5250DN does. Another notable disadvantage is the lack of energy-saving features and the fact that this unit draws more juice than most comparable units do. Record Number of Users: 186 on February 20, 2020 Record Number of Guests: 5122 on October 03, 2020 For some reason my printer still did not work following the previous step and my toner light was steadily lit. Due to the fact that my cartridge was a starter cartridge, and there weren't any gears that I needed to reset the page counter in my printer. 1. To do that, turn off your printer and open the front access panel. 2. Press and hold the white button, while turning on the printer. The toner, drum and error lights should remain lit.3. Release the white button and press it again twice.4. Release, pause and press again five times.5. If done correctly, when you plug your printer to your computer it should try to reinstall the drivers under Brother Maintenance Mode. Your computer will fail and will not find the appropriate drivers.6. Unplug your printer, turn it off, turn on and connect to the computer.7. Your computer should now recognize your Brother printer just like in the past.8. See if the toner light disappears, if it does, print a test page and you're done.9. If you are still having the same issues, try using tape to cover the sensor window instead of a black marker and repeat steps 1 – 8 of this page. If the toner light disappears then success, if you print and it's blank, then you are out of toner. Have a Brother HL2270DW laser printer. Great printer, except that the starter cartridge lasted a measly 210 pages. First, I tried this. Which didn't work. Then I ordered these inexpensive replacement cartridges from Amazon. Wish me luck. Then I found this solution, which works. The post, originally by Phiolle, says: Please do the following steps to reset the toner sensor. - Open the front cover and leave open while completing the following steps. - Turn the printer off. - Hold the 'go' button while turning the printer on. All lights should be on. - Release the 'go' button (or "start' button). - Press the 'go' button (or "start' button) 2 times. – Pause. All panel lights should be on. – Press the 'go' button (or "start' button) 5 times. The toner light should be off. (error may be flashing) The paper light should be on or flashing. – Close cover. The ready light should be the only light on. It works. Quoted here for posterity and google-ability. This entry was posted in Oversight. Bookmark the permalink. Brother WP 5 Am using Brother HL-5170 DN and a TN-540 toner cartridge. The printer decided it was out of toner, even though the last page printed was fine. Rather than run out for a new toner cartridge I used a small (.5 x .5 in.) piece of black electrical tape to cover the sensor hole on the non-gear side of the cartridge. By covering the hole the printer is fooled into thinking the hopper is full of toner. since i finally figured this out I thought I would post this for anyone who has the HL-4040 CN printer - or one similarAfter seeing the hitting the buttons with the door open tricks for different models I tried anything that sounded like it had the same buttons my 4040 has... nothing on here worked so I just started hitting combinations of buttons with the door open - wow there are guite a few hidden menus thereFor the toner life reset menu: 1 Open the front cover of the printer press and hold the cancel button while still holding cancel - here is the reset menu - go to the appropriate cartridge on - the menu and reset it and you're done!FYI... Pressing the "Go" button and the up arrow gives you the parts life reset menu (drum, laser, etc.) also did the electric tape over the windows - which worked before the reset - but I thought this fact would be helpful too. For anyone that is asking "what window?" I think it is the clear plastic opening on the sides of the cartridges where you can actually see the powder inside the cartridge - the color of the toner (magenta, yellow, or cyan). I didnt really know that for sure when I tried, but it made sense, and it worked. So I am fairly sure that is the "window" you should be trying to cover. I have a Brother HL-2170W printer, which has worked fine and printed what seemed like a reasonable number of pages for a starter cartridge before the "Toner" light came on. When that happened, I took it to a Cartridge World store and asked if the starter cartridge would work if refilled and was told that it would. But when I installed the refilled cartridge the Toner light refuses to go off. After some research, it appears that there's a "Reset Gear" on toner cartridges for the Brother HL-2170. One source said the Reset Gear can't even work on starter cartridges, yet others are selling the Reset Gear saying it will work on starter cartridges. Meanwhile, I have also come under the impression that there's a sequence of button pushes on the printer that will reset the Toner Counter. Does anyone know what that button-push sequence would be to do that? Thanks! THX worked for me as well on a HL-2030, starter cartridge, still perfect quality. I covered both "windows" though;-))just in case. How do you overide the toner low warnings on the Brother HL-3070cw? (the HL-3070cw was introduced towards end of 2009) Brother use a system of returning the residual print waste toner from the drum, to the toner supply hopper, via a charge brush which is in contact with the drum and charged differently during the clean cycle of the drum. The charged residual toner is transferred back to the developer roller and dropped back into the supply hopper. This is why most Brother cartridges, unlike most makes, do not have a waste toner hopper in the drum unit. When the toner is getting low, the electronics increase the charge on the developer roller to compensate for the mix of waste and good toner. This process continues until the maximum charge can no longer be accepted by the toner. This results in the charge brush failing to operate properly and hence waste toner is not returned to the toner hopper, but remains on the drum. This causes the backgrounding which appears on the printed page. Even blocking the low toner sesor will not prevent this from happening. This is a brief description of a rather lengthy complicated prcess. Submitted by Robbo. I have the 5250DN. I covered the 'eyes' on both the left and the right. No go, still says no Toner. I've tried a new cartridge and fuser, no go. Anyone? I have a Brother HL 2070n. The no toner led is lit, even after replacing toner cartridge. I tried the tape over the sensor hole, but it still says no toner. Any ideas? Is there a way around it. Previously I naively purchased a new Drum, although I did feel wasting great hardware... The Toner trick made may day. The tricks large companies do are crazy but making us throw away technology and create tons of waste for money but for now real reason is sickening. Brother MFC 9440CN Toner Life End Message... The Final Solution!!!Having gratefully read about how to defeat the toner sensor window with black electrical tape, I went to work.Sadly, I was crushed to discover that performing this operation did not solve the problem for my accursed unit. [Do it anyway as it will save you from these annoyingly premature warnings in future!] Reading further, I became convinced that a reset process similar to that used to solve this problem for the Brother 2040 and 7420 models was also required here. With nothing more to go on than responses to my emails from the good people (knuckleheads) at Brother telling me only how to install a new cartridge, I began poking around on my own 'till, after much swearing and gnashing of teeth, I figured it out:1. With power on, open the toner access main door (You will get a "door open" message in the LCD.)2. Hit the "Clear/Back" button and... ta-dah!!! you go right to the "Toner Reset Menu" (cue Vienna Boy's choir sounds here).3. Using the up ^ Down > "Search" arrow buttons, you can then scroll through reset options for each of the printer's [4] toner cartridges! Code: B. = black; C. = cyan; M. = magenta and Y. = yellow4. For each for these cartridges is the option to reset for low yield = S (small?) or High Yield = H5. Using the number keypad, select option #1 (to reset each to the size you have installed.6. Hit the "Clear/Back" button to get out of the menu, close door ad the problem is FINALLY solved. Cheers!b. Where is the toner hole (to be covered) on the HL-2040? i have a brother mfc 665 any tips on how to trick my printer? Anybody found a way to "trick" the Epson Stylus CX6000 inkjet printer? This thing uses ink like crazy...I am CONSTANTLY having to change the ink. Once its "says" its low, you cannot print anything...any tips would be greatly appreciated!!! For the Brother HL-4070cdw, if you get the Tone Life End message, and are no longer allowed to print, try this...1) Open the front door - the message 'Cover is Open' will appear.2) Press and hold the cancel button.3) Press the Reprint button - the message 'Reset Parts Life' should appear.4) Then do the following: B.TNR-H - accepted should display. Press ^B.TNR-S - accepted should display. Press ^Y.TNR-H - accepted should display. Press ^M.TNR-S - accepted should display. Press ^Y.TNR-S - accepted s accepted should display. Press ^C.TNR-H - accepted should display. Press ^C.TNR-S - accepted should display. Press ^5) Cancel6) Close the front door. You should be able to print, assuming your HL-4070cdw still has toner and drum life left. I believe the above sequence clears the toner for Black, Yellow, Magenta and Cyan for the High capacity or Standard capacity toner cartridge. None of the stats for your printer will be reset (ie Image Count, Drum Life, Belf Life, PF KitMPLife, Fuser Life or Laser life) and your print totals will still be unchanged (ie Toner page count, color page count, monochrome page count). Tom i have brother mfc9420 say low toner after i put in a new one This worked for me - I have a HL-2040. It resets the page counter: 1. Open the front cover and leave open while completing the following steps. 2. Turn the printer off. 3. Hold the 'go' button while turning the printer on. All panel lights should be on. 4. Release the 'go' button 5 times. 8. The toner light should be off. 9. The paper light should be on or flashing. 10. Close cover. The ready light should be the only light on. I have the Brother DCP 7020 which uses the TN-350 cartridge. I covered both "windows" with black tape. I also covered the sensors inside the machine with black tape. did all of this, turned the machine off/on and it still says "Toner Life End". I think the problem is with the gears, as this starter cartridge does not have the flag gear on it. Does anyone know how to fix this specific model with a hidden reset menu or anything? I have ordered a reset gear for it, but I really need to use it NOW! I have invoices that urgently need to go out. Thank you, CCFaith Hello everyone! Most of the Brother Printers even the color ones such as the 4040 & 4070 use 2 different toner detection systems. Many have the sensor "window" which can be covered with black tape but also have a "Flag Gear". The flag gear causes the cartridge to completely lock up the printer at a certain point. This is because the brother printers also use a toner recycling system which will adjust voltages depending on the toner levels detected and the flag gear position. The workaround is relatively simple for each printer but does vary. If you are interested in more info send me your specific model number and I may be able to send you a helpful illustration in pdf format. My email address is You people ROCK! THANK YOU for your help.Brother BLOWS for forcing folks to buy a new toner cartridge when it's not needed. The mechanical tape worked on my little lowly home printer. Thanks so much for this feed! The ink is just outrageous and for someone who almost NEVER prints in color to have to replace color cartridges every 4 months or so...this is awesome. Thanks again! School disaster averted! I've begun getting a warning message on my MFC-9840CDW that the drum needs replacing, so I'm just wondering whether a) it will also disable (hit a hard stop) the printer at some point and if not, b) what is the issue with continuing to print without replacing it? The drum is basically the tray that holds the 4 toner cartridges...correct? What is there to wear out with that? Thanks! We successfully reset the toner end message and have happily continued to print. Eventually, even though the toner window shows that there is still lots of toner in the cartridge, the cartridge starts to "spew" toner, not only on the printed paper, but inside the printer. Is there anything we can re-set to stop this? Maybe the flag gear? Edited to say that we have the Brother HL-4040CDN We just refill the toner cartridge but still it shows toner end of life...Please help... i fixed the problem on my HL-2140 by resetting the "flag gears". Thanks a lot you guys out there. Here is a copy of the info: There is a "flag gear" that, it seems, slowly turns (counterclockwise) as the toner cartridge is used, which finally hits a stop that appears to force the toner light on and prevent printing even if there is toner left. I have a TN550 cartridge which was refusing to print, and indeed the gear was at the stopping point. To reset the gear, take the cartridge out. On the gear side take off 2 screws, the flag gear (on the tn550) is the black gear on top right side, with a small spring underneath. Just take it off and reset it (rotate clockwise) so it is not at the stopping point. I did not reset it all the way because there was some indication in other postings that it controls certain voltages that depend on the toner level. I assume my toner is actually getting pretty low so I just turned the gear back a little bit, and the toner light turned off, and the printer prints. MFC-9320: I used the instructions that "Bret SoCal" posted and it worked like a charm. No electrical tape needed.1. Open the lid2. Press "Clear/Back" button3. Use arrows to select toner in question ("std" or "str" I assume is for "standard" or "starter"4. Select option #1 "reset"5. LCD will read "accepted" Yes -- you open the top cover and then hit Cancel and Secure Print at the same time. This brings up the toner cartridge menu. You can scroll up and down through the 4 cartridges (2 entries per color for some reason) and Press OK twice for each entry. The printer will briefly show Accepted for each reset. After doing this, I am still printing on all four of the starter cartidges and I did not cover any windows with tape or any of that stuff.Good luck,Rex Anderson On a MFC9840 the blue and yellow cartridges are spittingout toner!! Well, maybe not "spitting", but putting outmuch more toner than is needed to print. There are vertical smudges all the way down each page. I changed the old toner cartridges, since they had been refilled, and I thought that was it. But "nooooo"! No matter how many times I clean it up, clean the wires, shake off the cartridges, it just keeps on. AND it is getting worse. Anyone have any help for me at all????? Thanks. --Marcia How to get more black and color toner out of my MFC - 9320CW I covered the two sensor eyes on the right and left of the inside of where the cartridge sits... and since it would not print with this step only, I had to (while it is open) press the Clear/Back button and then the "ok" button and then follow the instuctions on the display screen to "Reset" it. (option #1)Don't forget to do this same reset step for each color twice. I will paste the directions below that someone posted earlier so that you can follow his step by step instructions on how to reset each color two times. Now my MFC 9320CW works so that I can be more efficent with the toner that is STILL in the cartridge and get more out of it!!REPOST:As a fledgling "work arounder", I discovered that by covering up the sensors, I failed to stop the "beep beep" and exclamation point demanding I replace the toner cartridge. WHat I DID discover was that even though it beeped and made its demands, that I could continue to print! (Which before doing the electrical tape/sharpie trick, I could not do) Having said all that, the best solution was the one that I adapted from "BrettSoCal"'s post from June of 2008. I think this may work on newer machines (my 9320 is a newer model too). Basically, with the power ON, you open up the door to access the toner cartridges, and then look at the Menu which will tell you the door is open. With the door open, hit the Clear button. That takes you right to the Toner Reset Menu. Using the up/down"Search" arrow buttons, scroll to the RESET option and then for EACH version that displays (for Brett's it was B= Black, for mine its K= Black, then C for Cyan, M for Magenta and Y for Yellow, followed by option for either STD or STR on mine, but on Brett's its H or S. That means you reset a total of 8 "cartridges", NOT REPLACE DRUM, just hit the #1 option for each. Then hit Clear /Back to exit the menu, and close the door. It will whirr and spit and whirr some more (sounds like an old PP and M song) and then will congratulate itself on "resetting" and you can print to your hearts content. Brett tells me he hasn't replaced toner since!! You may have gone the wrong direction if you picked up the "REPLACE DRUM" option, not sure, but I was really happy when this worked on my new MFC 9320. I put my electrical tape away and returned my black sharpie to my graffitti drawer. I know now what it feels like to be free! But I am seriously going to raise some serious hell with Brother. This is a deliberate effort to bilk their customers. I print about 5000 to 6000 sheets of paper per year. Last year I owned an HP. I spent about \$500 in cartridges, mostly Black and Yellow. I may have replaced one or two blue or magenta. I have owned this Laser machine for about 60 days, in that time, I spent \$210 in black toner cartridges and were it not for Brett (my new hero as I explained), I would have also had to purchase ALL THREE color toners, starting with Magenta. That would have cost me another \$200+. At this rate, I would have burned through the cost of the printer itself EVERY 60 DAYS. I was livid and made moreso when I talked to not only the tech at Brother, but his supervisor, both of whom were fatuous. condescending ierks. who when I confronted them that the Laser Black toner cartridge claims to be able to print 2200 pages, intimated that I must be outside the ASI standards with what I print. (I suppose to them, that must mean that I spend my waking hours converting white sheets of paper to black construction paper) Anyway, I digress. Try what Brett recommended and that I refit to my new unit. The principle is the same. Then lets all find out for me who the appropriate VP or CEO of Brother is and lets all get together and sue their miserable corpuscles! Hope this works for you! I am tempted to go the store and try it on every Brother floor model just to check it out. I may do that and encourage others to do so, just to provide more info to others. I am so grateful to those on this site that have been courteous enough to take the time to respond and judging by the string here, saved many thousands of dollars, or more, for all of us. I am really fired up about this and feel like Brother is really screwing their customers. This is not just a minor issue, this is a HUGE and deliberate misrepresentation. If the drum and toner are the same part this is fine and I do this at home as well but I have seen the problem in doing this hack. If the drum is separate from the toner this is a bad idea. The drum gets its toner from the developer and if the developer runs out of toner it can make lines on drum that the only fix is a new drum. It may not happen every time but doing this presses your luck. So if the toner cartridge has a drum do it this it will save you money, but if there separate it may cost you more in the long run. Works for a DCP1000 also. Just cover the eye that you can see in the bottom of the machine after removing the imaging cartrige with a small piece of electrical tape. When your getting low on toner you'll notice it on the prints. Awesome. Thanks for the tip. Worked in a HL-1850 as well with a TN-560 toner cartridge. Was looking all over for something like this. with printer on you must push the switch wich is located inside in upper left side of printer (it is a small white switch) and then release it. this should work. thanks so much! what great advice! I am still printing away with my Brother HL-5250DN and tape covering the sensor hole. It has been 500+ more pages. Intestingly the "low toner" light has again started to blink. I wonder if the machine as multiple methods for "guestimating" low toner - the photoeye & page count or something???Thanks, Jim The tape over the window works! Yeah! I had just printed about 400 pages (biggest job i've printed on this 5250DN, which I LOVE, by the way!!!). Then all of a sudden, message, End of Life on the toner as confirmed in the software control panel. Scratched my head. Swore. The printouts had all been perfect, no lightening, or ANYTHING, and i just KNEW there was still toner in that cartridge (I could HEAR it shaking the cartridge!).Long story short, read the excellent post here, took a piece of scotch tape and carefully covered the hole over the sensor window on the non gear side, and then took a black permanent marker and colored in the tape over the sensor. Popped it back in place, worked like a charm! I love DIY shit like this! Besides I was really pissed off that Brother would decide FOR ME when MY cartridge was empty! I mean, COME ON! As George Orwell predicted, Big "Brother" is watching, but we still have power! Yahoo! Thanks all!!Mike My 5250DN informed me that I was "out of toner" at a page count of 3050 pages. I applied the fix above and now at the 4880 mark - not bad. I am now getting some "background" dusting / gray that is pretty evenly distributed over the entire printable area page. Just to make sure there was not something else wrong I put in my new spare cartridge and it prints fine, so I guess at some point even toner still available something else is going on inside the cartridge... I understand there is some type of "toner recycle" mechanism in there that might be causing the dusting, but have never had one of these units apart. If somebody knows of another way to clear up the background toner dusting let me know eh? Thanks, Jim Robbo: Sorry for my extreme delay in replying, thanks for the explanation! Jim Hi there folks! First of all I know that this is a long time since someone has posted but here is my question. When I was at uni I bought a HL-5250DN printer and used it quite a bit. The printer comes with the low yield TN-3130 cartridge. The printer began flashing the toner light then later on the printer stopped working. I needed to print stuff for uni and didn't have time to look into it but I knew that there was toner left as the last page printed was top quality. I bought the high yield cartridge and it started printing again. But out of curiosity I decided to put the old cartridge back in to see what happens and it started printing again! I got the status from the printer and it thought the high yield cartridge was still in there. So my guestion is if I keep using the low yield until it is finished will I have a reduced use on the new high yield cartridge when I start to use it? I mean can the printer tell what type of cartridge is in it? (I guess it can so that it can guestimate the pages left?)RegardsDave Dave:I don't think there is any problem with swapping cartridges in and out....by taping over the sensor holes in each end of my original cartridge I was able to extend the life by another 1000 pages. After that the background starts to "dust up" and get dark.....But the printer is sensing how much toner is in the cartridge so swapping them should not be an issue....Jim Has anyone used the Brother 7820N model, and do you know how to override the "Toner end of life, replace toner" message? I have only had the toner cartridge in there one month. Thanks. I also covered the eyes on both the cartridge and the machine, on each side (this is for the 7820N). Still says NO TONER. I have the 5250DN and covering the eyes on both sides has helped me get a lot of extra life from the carts. I have NOT seen the "NO Toner" message, only the "LOW Toner" message... I do not know, but perhaps the "no toner" message is generated differently -- i.e. low towner error is generated when the printer can see thru the cartridge via the eyes, but that NO toner is somehow generated differently page count or some firmware function?Jim addresses your problem ajskillet. Tried this on a 2040 starter cartridge and it also works. I didn't have any electrical tape at the job so i got a black sharpie and colored it in. Works like a charm I tried the tape and it worked great thanks for the advice these cartridges have a mechanicle reset on the side of the cartridge, once the cartridge is inserted in the machine the mechanicle reset is activated and will clear the toner empty message. so the only way to get the error is put a cartridge in the machine then take it out while its got toner in it then put another in then run that toner out, then put the first toner in and it wont reset the error message because the mechanicle reset has already been tripped. if that makes any sense the mechanicle reset can be reset by taking the side cover of the toner and put the cog back in its rightous place. that get triped once and doesnt gradually move it moves all the way when you first put the cartridge in . works great on MFC-8870DW also. Thanks! I tried the "tape over the hole" business and it didn't work for me. Here's the technique for the MFC-7820N machine -- open front cover, push "options", push start, push 10, (mayber push "start" again here i dont remeber) then it should read "accepted", close cover, done. Haji, my technical support guy felt that I should not have had to open and close the cover a second time after it read "accepted", but I did. Hi AllAnybody have a fix for TN250 cartridge in an MFC 6800. Same problems with low toner light. Also out of toner caused shutdown. Managed to get it going again by cycling power on and off. My problems have got worse after using after-market toner cartridges at ~\$8 each but I can live with them (save \$32). Summary of my problems are1 Toner shading intermittent. Sometimes gets worse as more copies are done. Sometimes starts bad and improves. 2 There is toner in cart and I would like to get low toner light off. 3 Occasional out of toner shutdown. I have looked at the TN250. both brother and after-market, and see no window to cover!Thanks for listeningTom I just purchased a Brother MFC-9840CDW. It uses the TN-110 (lo capacity) and TN-115 (hi capacity) toner cartridges. I only got a little over 1400 prints on the TN-110 black before it locked me out. did look and found a little window, as described for other brother machines. I was able to put the tape over the hole in the toner cartridge tray (holds all 4) instead of putting it on the cartridge itself. It worked like a charm. I looked and there seemed to be lots of toner left. I just was able to make more prints with no degradation of quality. Thanks for the help. I will continue to use this to override the low toner. I love this "DIY shit" as well. LOL!!!This is the best use of duct tape since Apollo 13.1 got stuck printing homework for the child late at night after the stores were closed, so this really helped out. Thanks, I love you man. Works for the MFC 9440 CN also- there's a square "window" on the left side of the toner cartridge-I put a piece of masking tape over, colored it black, and it's printing again. I was getting a "end of toner" message. Any chance of harming the printer? We have the MFC-9440cn on which I just replaced the original black toner with a high yield. I haven't replaced any color carts yet. The original black low yield gave me about 1600 pages. I'm wondering if I could try this procedure in a pinch without endangering the printer. (it's an office printer, can't take chances) Thanks, Ken I am about to try the cover the window trick on my MFC-9840Cdw to extend the use of toner that I know is not at the end of its actual printing life. What about the drum notices. It bugs the heck out of me that after only six months I am getting a change parts/drum warning. Thanks I have the HL-2070N with TN350 cartridge.... Printer was working great with no light copies or lines until low toner error. Logged into the printer using the web browser and says only 1800 sheets printed. I just tried the tape on the side of the cartridge trick and it works great!!!! Might be able to get a few hundred more sheets out of this cartridge. For people who had this end of toner issue with the 5250dn, you simply need a star screwdriver as posted by lukew. It is easy to perform and will save you some money. Brother really disappointed me with a product that I could not be more satisfied of, up to now. (especially when that happens while printing term papers in the middle of a document!!!!) for the post lukew I have a brother DCP-340CW printer whree the signs "Near empty" Black" and "Near empty Yellow" keep coming up when full cartridges have been installed. Nothing will print. Any ideas? My two Brother HL-5250DN are happy now the screws removed and the white flag gear that wants to fall out on you moved to the correct position good thing i kept all my old cartriges A big thanks again hehe go Techies ... You guys are geniuses. It worked for me as well. 5250dn. What a rip off this whole cartridge, toner business is. Thank you x 100 HL-2070N worked! Can someone help me figure out where the sensor hole is for the HL-5250DN? I'm not very savvy about these things and I can't seem to locate it. I'm also trying to get more usage out of the toner cartridge. Thanks! I bought a new drum and it still says to clean the corona drum wire. I followed instruction and cleaned each time but still does not work. Any ideas? Can someone help me find out where the sensor hole is for the HL-5140? I can't seem to locate it. Thank you! i had the same thing, clean corona drum wire.. if moving the blue thing side to side try using a compresor and blowing the corona wire and grid it worked for me. dont put the drum is sunlight or expose to much light for long periods or u will damage it. Thanks for the tip, I have a 9840, but will have to try it to see if it works on mine as well. Does the 9440 use the TN-110/TN-115 toner cartridges? I too was unsuccessful with black electrical tape, but was able to get rid of the "low" toner" warning and continue to use my old cartridges by removing one of the end pieces and resetting one of the gears, but this certainly sounds like a simpler solution! @buber...Yes indeed... same cartridges. I too looked at that link and had images of toner flying everywhere. Was pretty sure there was a simpler solution.Oh, one more thing I meant to add about saving toner in the first place: you might want to try turning on the "Toner Save Mode" to stretch out your cartridge replacements.Open Printers > go to your printer's icon > Printing Preferences...> Advanced Settings > select "Printer Functions" (far right icon) > select Toner Save Mode from menu >> turn "on". Results look fine to me for daily use, though not suggested for grayscale or photo printing. Best, Thanks Very Much! This worked for me using the HL-2040 with a single black tape over the clear plastic sensor hole on the non-gear side. Just printed my first (post out of toner light) page. If this gets me another 500 pages I will be grinning because this is just the starter (half full) cartridge that came with it when I bought it. Also I'm glad the solution is all hardware. I was worried it would be a software patch and since I'm using linux and most people windoze it wouldn't be easy. Great website, real need for this sort of thing!Does anyone know about printers that just have a toner bottle you refill the supply yourself? Then you just buy bulk toner. I have this Toshiba photocopier from 1987 also that got great milage that way. I guess it doesn't fit the consumable cash cow business model though I bet anybody to offer a printer like that would have legions of loyal customers right away. Best write up I have ever seen on this subject, thanks to all for the information, great job. Be nice if Brother would just publish all the information and tell us what is going on. Love the Brother printers, almost no paper jams. Have been using them from the HL-1240 thru the 1440, 5250DN, MFC-8660DN printers thru the years. Have bought at least 16 Brothers printers, love the low cost per copy. Watch for the printers on sale, new printers on sale are cheaper than buying replacement drums. Reasonable quality paper helps, 22lb or 24lb works a little better than 20lb paper. 16lb paper works but don't use it except when required for special jobs. Thanks to all. Yay! It works! I have a Brother MFC-9840CDW that I just got last week. Had printed 650+ copies (about 2/3 black, the rest in color) when the black "low toner" started coming on. And then the dreaded "toner life ended". Took me a bit to get it to work, and I'm still not sure which "hole" I was supposed to cover up. I ended up putting small pieces of duct tape over 3 different possible "holes". The first time I tried it with scotch tape over the square "window" and black-sharpied over that, but it didn't do anything. So, either I had the wrong spot or it needed something more solid like the duct tape.Still, if someone who has done this successfully could clarify which place exactly needs to be taped over, that will make it easier for me to do the color cartridges when they start saying "low toner" too.Thanks in advance! So happy I found this fix, thanks to the person on Amazon who shared this link in his review of the printer. And happy that it worked! How much life does this procedure add to the cartridges? Not sure if it's worth the time. I have a MFC-7220 which uses the TN-350 tonerI had a "End of toner life" message. I covered up the reader holes. This did not work. There is a "reset gear" you need to "flop over" for it to think there's a new toner in... You may need to roll the big black roller for it to move freely... Here is link to a picture of what the gear looks like. It does not come with "starter" cartrages... fun with that... I've been using a combination of these procedures since I got my MFC-9840CDW printer a couple weeks ago. A few things to note. Even after putting tape over the sensor hole on the left, I sometimes still have gotten the low toner message later on, even when the output still looks fine. I covered the hole on the right (the plastic one) to get more life out of the cartridge. Taking the cartridge out and shaking it a bit sometimes helps too. To answer the guestion above about whether this is worth the trouble, to me it certainly is because I now switch cartridges when the output shows me that the toner is running out -- not when some message tells me to do it! The additional number of prints you can get from this method will vary depending on how much coverage there is on your page. I have gotten at least 500 more prints since the first "toner low" message came on, and I have been printing almost full-page prints. I do suggest changing to "toner save" mode if you're printing something that doesn't have to be at the very highest quality. It basically just prints lighter. One thing I will say about this printer regarding the comments I've read about "it's just like having a Kinko's in your own office/home." Well, it is... and it isn't. The "cost-per-page" that I've read for this printer is something like 12 cents/page. Sounds much better than Kinko's, Staples, Office Depot (they all run from 29-49 cents/page on sale), right? The problem is that the estimated pages-percartridge is based on an "industry standard" of 5\% coverage. A Brother CSR explained to me that would be like a 1-inch solid square per page. Well, who prints that?! I am printing full-page, full-color flyers. And there's the difference -- if I print/copy these at Kinko's, I pay the same price whether every inch of the page is covered in color, or only one inch is. I like the convenience of having this printer at home. Cost-wise, though, I most likely could save some money going to Kinko's. Especially for full-color, big jobs. As quickly as I've gone through toner (even using all the tricks I learned on this forum, which have helped a lot, and even after finding the least expensive place to buy toner online -- Provantage dot com), I would guess it's costing me about 25-35 cents/page. I have not been using the "toner save" though -- hopefully I can reduce the cost by using that more. That's an excellent analysis. Have a HL 650D. Can you tell me exactly where this hole is? Is it on the right side of the toner cartridge, itself? Okay, I feel really stupid but both sides of the toner cartridge look pretty much the same to me. Looking at the cartridge as it sits in the machine, which side is the "non-gear" side? Where exactly is the sensor located on a Brother MFC-3220C? Also, what does it look like? jaredtrice, I'm also curious if I can find a similar fix for my (second) MFC-3360C multi-function unit. My first worked great for a couple years, then started spitting pages out half-printed. Paper-feed trigger wasn't damaged. Nearest service site is 3 hours away, so I only talked with a printer tech there over the phone and he admitted he hadn't a clue why it might be doing that. So I bought another one, they are cheap after all. Next one showed up, I swapped the previously just fine printer cartridges, but the new printer error message read "no cartridge installed". So I popped brand new, out of the package ones in, and it read the same thing. Brother's service said that occasionally happened with "non-Brother" brand cartridges, but

never seemed to be a problem with Brother cartridges. I paid the UPS rate to send it to the service site. The tech called a few days later to say the problem was fixed, but the cartridges I sent were "bad", and since they didn't want to pay for cartidges themselves did I want to buy them so he could verify that it was fixed? No.So it's on its way back to me and I have little doubt it isn't going to work. But looking at the cartridges, I notice there's a kind of indented, clear-plastic block-window that shows ink level. When my printer comes back I'm going to explore how to black this out and see if that helps...if it's just a cartridge sensor problem. Very much Appreciate the article! It's actually pretty unsettling the company managers often feel it's ok to scam their customers for profit. I'm sure they tell themselves it's no big deal, and go home to their family's and civic clubs and such and think they're perfectly wonderful people. But the reality is that doing dishonest, scammy things means you're basically a dishonest, scammy person. Or company. I have TN 330 toner cartridge from a Brother HL-2140. Would you please tell me in more detail where the sensor hole is? Thank you. does this trick work on brother mfc 440cn printers???? already replace black once and one of the colors, also??? You are a genius!! Thanks for the tip! Does this work on other printers as well? I have a lexmark Z22 and am always running out of ink, i have a brother mfc 665 any tips on how to trick my printer? You are a rock star! Thanks for posting! - JM I WAS READ YOUR POST AND WAS WONDERING IF IT WOULD WORK ON LEXMARK X2500 IF YOU KNOW ANY THING PLEASE LET ME KNOW THANKS Does any one know if we can do this to a Lexmark printer cartridge? I'm so tired of paying \$60 every couple months...it would be wonderful to bypass these cartridges as well, and get more use from them when I know full well that they are not empty. Could someone post a picture of the sensor hole please?---Is it the square hole on the non-gear side, which is matched by one on the gear side???Thanks What about a KodakESP3 How about the TN-430 How about HP Officeiet J6450? Shh. I don't want it to hear me. Does anyone have experience with the Brother MFC-5660CN Cartridges? If you are using an aftermarket cartridge without the sensor window make sure the tab on the side is facing approximately 10am and not 3pm. Many of the Brother models are finnicky on a cartridge replacement. I always 1. unplug the Brother. 2. Take out cartridge. 3. Put new cartridge in but leave the door open. 4. Plug in machine and close door. Seems to work most of the timeStuartAmeriToner.com888-276-1579 x210 I want to override toner replacement on a Brother laser HL1400. Anyone know a semi-permanent technique such as the electrical-tape-over for my machine? I used a page reset code, but it's a pain to do it every time I want to print. I don't see an eye or a white switch that is mentioned on other Brothers. Here's the page count reset I'm using if anyone wants it: 1. Open the front cover and leave open while completing the following steps. 2. Turn the printer off. 3. Hold the 'go' button while turning the printer on. All panel lights should be on. 4. Release the 'go' button. 5. Press the 'go' button 2 times. 6. Pause. 7. Press the 'go' button 5 times. 8. The toner light should be off. 9. The paper light should be on or flashing. 10. Close cover. The ready light should be the only light on. Thanks for the tip in the original post. FYI, it also works for the Brother HL-4070CDW, and I'd guess for the HL-4050CDN. For the HL series: 1 Open the front cover of the printer2 press and hold the cancel button3 press the reprint button while still holding cancel- here is the reset menu - go to the appropriate cartridge on- the menu and reset it and you're done!FYI... Pressing the "Go" button and the up arrow gives you the parts life reset menu (drum, laser, fuser, etc.) sagg... Yeah I did some checking and that combo of button pressing that I happened upon should work for all HL series Brothers from what I can tell. I am going to try to make a list of the hidden menus for my own reference. If I dont I will need them for sure later and have to start over again. When I get it, I'll post it here. I also found a site from someone who took DESCRIPTIVE pics of an INKJET cartridge and what to cover up....:)THIS one is for INKJETS though as you can obviously tell when you view the page at this link:journal.drfaulken.com/trick-your-brother-inkjet-into-working-when-an-i nkcartridge-runs-dry/I am still looking for something for laser printers that might help ... like i said I just guessed what to cover and it worked :) I didnt know for sure what anyone was talking about with the "window" - Could it be a coincidence and I covered up the wrong thing? Maybe... and then all this typing below would be worthless : (look for a clear round plastic piece on the side of the toner cartridge (on mine it is on both sides i dont know if it is the same on all) everything else will be black plastic and this will be clear - you should be able to see the actual color of the toner through this clear round plastic part if there is any toner in there and its not empty (which is why were all here) - like this... if it is the cyan cartridge you should be able to see blue powder through this clear part on the side, if its yellow cartridge you should see yellow powder and so on - tilt the cartridge back and forth and look at the side to watch for the powder (toner) to cover up the clear hole when you tilt it that way - i took electric tape and put it right over this part on both sides then magically (after turning the printer off and on) I could print - from looking at pics of different laser toner cartridges online, they all look to be pretty similar so I would think this would be pretty close to accurate for most of them - the HL 4040 that i have uses the TN115 cartridges or the high yield version. i think it only matters if you cover a "window" on one side of the cartridge though according to what i read a light is sent all the way through the cartridge and if it is "sensed" on the other side it "thinks" the cartridge is empty - so covering up the "window" on either side of the cartridge will block the light from making it through tried your black electrical tape trick on mine under the same circumstances.. removed the cartridge and placed small pieces of elec tape over small circular holes on either side of the cartridge itself. Alarm buttons went off immediately and it is printing up a storm.thanks much guys. Hi,OK, have a Brother 5250DN, Toner light on, although filled cartridge in printer. Will refuse printing. Covered all sensor holes, that did not help. Put a brand-new cartridge in, now all is fine, light is off, printing goes again. And then , here the trick: put the other cartridge back in -> voila, now it works. Not sure if I understand this one, but hey, it worked for melenjoy the cartridge ride . . Marcel Fight the man!!! am otherwise very happy with the product... in fact, have since purchased a 2nd new model 2140 for \$45 (Staples) and LOVE it too... but this toner thing really made me feel taken advantage of...Enough!!! ;-D I have a Brother HL-2040 and can't find the sensor I should put tape over. Could someone let me know exactly what it looks like and where it is. I'm not very tech-savvy. Thanks. Our Brother printer MFC9440 CN is leaving marks all over our printing like splatters everywhere. We have cleaned the drum unit but it still leaves all the marks. Any ideas? Could you tell me where the sensor hole is - what does it look like? I don't see it anywhere. Do I take the toner out of the drum - it is on the toner cartridge or drum? Would red duct tape work or does it have to be black? Confirmed trick on the MFC-8460N. Saved my office and my job. TAKE THAT BROTHER! I taped over the window on the cartridges for the Brother MFC-685CW and it worked. There's ink in ther still Warning! Please read this remark carefully. People in this forum have found out all kind of tricks to override "toner empty/toner end of live messages". The reason you still can print with an almost empty cartridge is a mechanical problems. In other words, the remaining toner has a smearing function, it works like "oil" in the toner cartridge. There is a possibility that the tonercartridge stops turning around in case of covering both "eyes". As a possible result, the toner drive gears inside the machine all will be destroyed! End of machine live!! Another reason is to prevent leakage of the toner unit. The developer roller has mechanical limits and its developed for a certain amount of cycles. Conclusion: there is no commercial reason for Brother, but just to prevent mechanical problems. The reset as posted by Hagan worked GREAT on my HL-4070CDW. I also taped over the clear windows on both sides of the cartridge I have no idea how to find the sensor on my machine to black out with a marker or tape to get more prints. also, my drum is bad after owning the machine 6 months! I called staples where I bought it and the extended warranty of course (which i was assured would cover everything) and of course the drum isn't covered. They want to charge me \$159.00 for a new drum. Please please give me detailed instructions on how I can extend my ink and fix this drum issue. my faxes are coming out with a black line on the left side of every page thank you oh so much! Has anyone tried to overide Brother DCP 135C inkjet printer? I have brother 240C printer with LC51 Cartridges. Can't find hole or censor to tape or mark it black. Can anyone post video on "YOUTUBE" showing cartridge how they did it. That would be way better than saying "It Worked". Everyone have diff. model of brother. How many of you posted video on "YOUTUBE" how you guys did it succesfully as Thanx? Excuse me, does anybody know if this works for a MFC9840CDW? I bought high yield toners two days ago and now the printer says the toners are low. I appreciate it. I finally resolved this problem on my HL-2040 by resetting the "toner empty" mechanical flag on the side of the cartridge. I had to remove three screws to remove the plate that covers the gearing, and then manually move a white plastic gear about 90 degrees counter clockwise so that indicator "arm" was pointing to about 10 oclock (it was at 3 o'clock before adjusting it). The whole procedure took about 5 minutes. Many thanks to all who posted their tips. Whoever originally posted this, thank you SO much! It helped initially to just bang my vellow cartridge; but now all the banging isn't helping and I can plainly see toner happily floating around in there through the little portholes, sort of taunting me. I've been looking all over for the sensors so that I can put some tape over the bad boys and be done with it, but can't find 'em. I've got a Brother HL-4070cdw model, and of course the owner's manual is not offering info on where to find the little buggers. Can anyone help me, PLEASE??!! Thanks! I just did this with a TN-330 cartridge for a Brother HL-2170W printer. I didn't have any electrical tape, so I simply colored in the window with a black Sharpie. Printing now. :) Thanks for the tips!! Big Brother wants us to buy toner before we need it. My Sharpie wasn't flexible enough in the HL-2170 window, but I happened to have a craft store .5 mm permanent pen that did the trick. Thanks! I'm still waiting for someone to share with me where the sensors are on the Brother HL-4070cdw model so that I can cover them up and be done with all these false "out of toner" messages and printer shutdowns. Anyone have this model that can help me out here? Thanks:) I just used the electrical tape trick for my Brother MFC-7840W model. I put a small piece of black tape over the sensor on the non-gear side of the cartridge (the sensor is a hole with a clear round casing around it..the whole thing is about the size of a dime) and it works like a charm now. Thanks for the tips everyone! Thanks for that info:) Just to be clear, is that the one where you can see the toner, like a little window? I have a Samsung ML1430 laser printer that stopped printing and the Toner Save and Error buttons keep flashing. I refilled a cartridge with toner and it worked for a while, but again it stopped printing and the lights are flashing again. Is it possible to use the tape as mentioned for other printers, and if so, please advise where to find the sensors and reset gears. Thank You hi guys... just want to say thanks you for making this thread 'cause it worked for me (my printer is dcp-150c)!!!! I just put a small electrical tape (cut lengthwise) and covered the cartridge as shown here: for the low resolution picture.. just used a webcam... Many thanks!!!!! hi i have tried what everyone says about covering i have covered an entire side of the cartidge holder and still nothing says i need to replace everything which i know cant be true anyone have a picture of what holes i am supposed to be covering thanks Some brother cartridges use what is called a "flag gear". The gear turns slowly every time the cartridge is used. When it gets to the end of its range, a spring stops it from turning further and the printer will not print until the cartridge is replaced. When a cartridge is still empty and it will not work. You can also squeeze some extra life out of a used cartridge using this method. Caution: in cartridges that have a built-in waste toner reservoir, resetting the flag gear can result in continuing to print when the reservoir is full and spilling waste toner into your printer. This can ruin your printer, so be careful. In printers that have a separate waste toner receptacle, this is not an issue. I just had this flag gear issue on a MFC-9840CDW, so I am going to give instructions for that cartridge so that you are looking at the end of the cartridge with the developer roller to your left. (This is the opposite end from the filler cap). You should see 2 phillips head screws, one at the top right, one at the bottom left. You should also see part of the gray flag gear through an opening in the end cap.2. Remove screws and the end cap they were holding in place (one or 2 gears may fall out when you do this, but they should be simple to pop back into place).3. Note attachment point of the spring over flag gear, then temporarily remove it so you can reset the gear.4. Remove the flag gear and reinstall it so that its teeth are just beginning to mesh with the adjoining gear.5. Reinstall the spring.6. Reinstall the end cap.DONE This is MUCH easier to do than to describe, like tving your shoelaces. Once you have done it and know what to look for, the entire process should take less than 1 minute, see my post about resetting the flag gear in the printer cartridge. Thanks for that latest posting. Do you know how to tell if your printer has the built-in waste toner reservoir or a separate waste toner receptacle? I have a Brother HL-4070cdw - if that info is in the owner's manual, then I've missed it so far:) see recent post about resetting flag gear So this was a well-known issue on Brother laser printers... I was actually waiting for my HL-4070CDW to be delivered, and when I learned about this premature toner disposal issue, I had felt a distant sense of alarm. I had chosen this model over the Hewlett Packard CP1518ni mainly because they said hp's CP1518ni toner wore off much faster, so I had thought Brother would come up more economic in the long end. When somebody pointed out, "How come all the three color toners can wear off at the same time?" my first reaction was like, "What?!"Anyway, thanks for all the valuable information, guys. Now I think I can stop worrying about whether to return this to the retailer. :-) I have TN 330 toner cartridge from a Brother HL-2140. Would you please tell me in more detail where the sensor hole is? Thank you. what's about HL-2140 printer. Mine is running low on the toner....How can i trick my printer?????? ANYONE KNOW HOW TO FIND A MENU WHERE IT SHOWS YOU WHAT YOUR TONER LEVELS AREI HAVE BROTHER 9440 AND I CAN SEE PARTS FOR DRUM AND FUSE BUT NOTHING THAT WILL TELL ME WAHT \% I AM ON TONERS sorry i have 9840 I have a Brother MFC 9840CDW. I first got the Toner Low and then the Toner Life End message. After reading the various responses on this blog, I did the following to re-set the printer: 1. Turn on the printer 2. Push the button on the front of the printer to open the cartridge door. Don't remove the cartridges 3. Push the Clear/Back button to bring up a reset menu. There are 8 different toner functions (for simplicity, two B's, two C's, two C's, two B's, two C's, two B's, two C's, two B's, two C's, two B's, two B's, two C's, two B's, two 'Accepted' and will then display a message that the cover is open. 5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 for each of the 8 toner functions, 6. When finished, close the door and the status bar will be reset to normal with no error message. I don't have the 4070cdw model, so it might be different than the 9840cdw. But, after the 'door open' message was displayed, I simply pushed the clear/back button to go back to the reset menu. The 'door open message the disappeared. If that doesn't work, try experimenting with variations of those commands. Most of the Brother printers have a software option for resetting toner settings. You don't need to do a mechanical ('tape') solution to reset the false toner messages. I have a Brother MFC685cw and what started as a bogus "Black Ink Empty" now is a "No Cartridge" Black error? I used the sharpie tip to get rid of the "Empty" error...which, btw, was after I inserted a new cartridge!!! Then I inserted a New, new Cartridge. Now that I got those to clear, I'm getting "No Cartridge" error. My printer has been working just fine and w/out warning, this nightmare started yesterday.... I have tried all of the above to find a reset menu and still can't find a combo for this. I can't remove the toner cartridge from my hl-2140 printer. It's stuck. I don't want to force it because I might break the plastic parts. Any suggestions? Where is the holes that you cover on this printer in order to get more toner out of your cartridge? Please help. I covered the two clear windows on my HL 2170w and it worked. I just found this website and you guys are awesome. Thank you sooooooo much. Same here with the 2030. Works fine!!! Nothing else worked for my 2070N except the following: Keep the printer onOpen the front coverTake out the tonerHold 'Go' Until all LED's light upPut in the tonerClose the coverThis worked for me with a non-OEM toner. It resets the toner counter on the printer. I have a Brother MFC-420CN, the one with four colors. All of the colors, Black, Yellow, Blue, are fine, except I received a LED notice that the Magenta was "NEAR EMPTY" (which it was not). I replaced it with a brand new cartridge, and now the LED message reads, "NO CARTRIDGE". I even went and purchased another brand new Magenta cartridge thinking that the other was defected, and this one - same thing. I just cannot get this LED display or the Brother machine to READ that there is a new cartridge in there. I called an authorized dealer, and he told me it may be the sensor...and to fix it, repair costs begins at \$55.00+parts. I have unplugged the printer, turned it on/off, took all the cartridges out, then placed them all back in following the LED instructions, then answered YES when LED asked if it was replaced... I have even placed the wrong color cartridge into the Magenta slot, and it still does not read that there is a cartridge in there. Please advise soonest. Thank you. YES! 4070CDW worked like a charm! dude this is the best. for the HL-4070CDW, just cover the holes on the right of the tray out, the right is on the right of course. the little holes that allow the 'sensor' to show through, just cover them up with tape or I used a torn off sticky pad, covered with scotch tape. I 'ran out of yellow' covered that up, now its OK. if you look at the printer's configuration by using a webpage, I saw that Cyan was also 'low' stuck paper over that is gone. I mean the yellow had so much toner left it was sloshing around the inside. now we can run the toner out and see how much it really has! Thanks!!! MFC-9840cdw. First many thanks to those who posted - especially tsativeh. Printer stopped due to no toner (print guality was fine). I used the black tape method frequently mentioned. Printer then worked but I kept getting an annoying "LOW TONER" message. tsatiyeh described a reset on another model - see that post. Here's what I want to add to the discussion. On the MFC-9840cdw: To get to the reset options that tsatiyeh describes:1) open the door as if you were going to change the toners2) press the Clear/Back button 3) The Reset Menu appears!4) I reset all of the TNR-S (four of them - one for each color)5) all is well You are most welcome. I otherwise LOVE mine... works great. That automated refill scheme struck me a borderline fraudulent. Oh, and subsequent comments pertaining to the need to "leave some unused toner in the cartridge to prevent damaging the machine" are utter poppycock! Enjoy! For the 7820N, I ran into the TONER LIFE END message numerous times. I have used the trick whereby you open the front, press options, then 1-0 and start. This would buy me some time, but not much. When I pulled the drum and toner out, I noticed a clear circular window on the right side of the device. Figuring this was the "sensor" that was causing my printer to want more expensive toner, I covered it with tape. pushed the toner / drum back in and it works perfectly. No warnings, no quality issues. ".....but still, I love technology."-Kip Dynamite I just covered both "eyes" on my toner cartridge for my Brother HL-2170W with electrical tape as described above. Worked like a treat. Thanks for the advice! The brother hl-2170W has been a real POS for us for the most part. Wireless is spotty, support was bad, etc. When the low toner light came on only 350 sheets into the cartridge (when at 328, I'd seen it say it had more than 80\% toner left on a setup page) I was ready to heave it out the window. Found this thread. On the 2170, pull the black carrier and gray cartridge assembly out together. Remove the gray cartridge assembly. on the right side (as you removed it) there's a little clear plastic window. that's the thing to cover. I used masking tape then colored it with a not particularly black marker. Still printing... Works fine with Lexmark c500 toners. Thanks!!! This worked like a charm for my HL-2040. Now, if I only had the previous two cartridges I've used. ITS CHRISTMAS ALL OVER AGAIN~~Yepe!It worked like a bugger on my MFC-9840thanks ALL Just recently got toner low warnings on all cartridges for Brother MFC 9440CN, so when I checked cost of replacement cartridges I was horrified. So I bought 4 refill bottles which cost a ridiculous \$190, \$47 each for 130g of toner which must cost about \$1 to manufacture. On reading instructions it said you must empty cartridge of old toner before refilling as new toner may not be compatible with old toner and cause a chemical reaction. I pulled plug from refill hole and tipped over trash can and expected about one spoonful of powder to come out. The ceiling fan was on full and the next thing I knew the whole room was full of toner, MORE toner came out of the supposedly EMPTY cartridge than was in the refill bottle. What a friggin con. These printer makers obviously set the warning way early to get you to buy more cartridges. It's a disgrace. I have now used the information on this forum from "Brett In SoCal (posted 6/29/08 4:57 PM), see above, which has worked a treat. Don't ya just love genius's - thanks Bret you're a star. Update to [Brother MFC 9440CN Toner Life End Message... The Final Solution!!!]When last we spoke, I had just reset the counters on all 3 color cartridges using the technique posted in my comment of (6-29-08)Simultaneously, I decided to enable the printer's "toner save mode" as the savings have proved well worth the minor degradation in print quality doing so causes. Cut to now... I have just done enough printing to receive another "Low Color Toner" warning... with, of course, no actual end of toner in sight!It had been so long, I had to go back to my earlier posting to remind myself what to do. The good news is that it again worked perfectly. Doing so suggested this tip: regardless of what size cartridges you are using, reset each color's counter to the "H-high" setting as the point here is that we are waiting for the PRINTS to tell us when a cartridge really needs replacement... not our beloved machine's bogus counters! Cheers! b. This is my post from August... I have seen it worked with 4070 as well as the 4040 that I have... I know it can get a little hard to scroll through this whole page looking for this stuff. Re: Brother toner cartridge low toner override by hagan (8/22/08 2:21 PM) reply + / - since i finally figured this out I thought I would post this for anyone who has the HL-4040 CN printer - or one similarAfter seeing the hitting the buttons with the door open tricks for different models I tried anything that sounded like it had the same buttons my 4040 has... nothing on here worked so I just started hitting combinations of buttons with the door open - wow there are guite a few hidden menus thereFor the toner life reset menu:1 Open the front cover of the printer2 press and hold the cancel button3 press the reprint button WHILE still holding cancel- here is the reset menu - go to the appropriate cartridge on- the menu and reset it and you're done!FYI... Pressing the "Go" button and the up arrow gives you the parts life reset menu (drum, laser, etc.) Genius .. electric tape works greatTHANK YOU Well done. Good work. Thanks . I have a 8660DN printer and I refilled my toner cartridge a few days ago and now when the printer prints it squeaks? I had refilled this printer with no problems before. Any suggestions on how to fix. I have been reading everything but I didn't see any information regarding the brother 420cn, so I put tape on the ink cartridge, I found a hole in the bottom and taped it like everyone else did. IT WORKED! It now says it is near empty instead of empty and I am printing again!THANK YOU! I'm so happy I found this forum. I use a TN-350 toner and it died out on me at 2400 pages (and I just got it last year). I was *about* to go out and buy a new toner but then I thought "Why not go online and try to find a solution?". This was the third website I found about fixing a toner. Like this one and many others, it told me to cover the clear plastic holes. But that didn't work for me. I was getting frustrated cause it seemed to work on everyone else's printer. But then later I used the reset method (mentioned above), and it worked!And I'm soooo happy cause I know I will get a couple more hundred pages with my toner. I can't believe Brother would do this to us = (Does anyone know how to reset the page counter after replacing toner cartridges? I have a MFC9840cdw. I just replaced the cartridges (as opposed to resetting the "toner low" message, which can be done from the menu). However, I want to reset the page counter so I can have a rough idea of toner use going forward. I checked the Brother site but they have no information on resetting it. Any help would be appreciated. Thanks for the great advise to cover hole with black tape. Just put in new toner and message came up "toner life end". I also moved the white piece on left side of tuner up and that helped reset printer! Thanks again I have many of the problems mentioned above. I will be trying various fixes on Friday! Wish me luck! I have a question though. Can you not just take out the flag gear and metal spring thing???Thanks I have covered the two sensors on the twos side on the toner. It works. Thank you. Thanks - I just put a black piece of paper in front of the sensor. I have no idea why Brother won't let you print with toner low. Good looking out!!! I have a Brother MFC-440CN printer and it works for the LC-51 toner cartridge also. None of these tricks worked on 9440 CN. Got end of life on all three color cartridges. Replaced all three. Yellow still says end of life but it is a new cart. PRINTER WON'T PRINT even in monochrome!! HELP. One more big thumbs-up for this fix. Can't find my manual for my 5170DNLT and the brother support site is down -- so I wasn't sure of the meaning of the "dumb" status lights. Not knowing whether this was a serious problem or simply low toner, I did not want to invest \$90 in a new cartridge to find out. Tried everything else including the corona wire and high voltage contact cleanings to no avail. Found this page, put some electrical tape over the sensor hole and Voila! It's printing again! Now I know my printer's still good, and am confident making the investment in a new cartridge when the toner does run out. Thanks everyone! If I'm reading these postings correctly, it seems the HL-4040CN problem can be solved by EITHER blocking the toner detection windows on the cartridge, OR using the toner life reset procedure, or manually resetting the cartridge reset gear. Do all of these procedures solve the problem, or is one better/easier than another? It seems like any of these 3 detection schemes could/would override the others. What am I missing here? Thanks for your help. I feel your anger, jwooden5941 but it ain't just Brother. Practically all printer manufacturers do this sort of stuff. Printer ink/toner is BIG business. Thankfully, there are forums like fixyourownprinter.com to help us little guys "stick it to the man!" The suggestions in this thread alone will save me thousands of dollars because I run a small desktop publishing operation. DCP 350C worked! Thanks for sharing. We don't EVEN USE the color ink, so we were trying to figure out how it was empty to begin with. Of course, as we did this, each sucessive color cartridge showed "empty." Changed cyan, next message, magenta out, changed magenta, next message yellow LOW. That would have been HUGELY annoying if I were running back and forth to the store with one cartridge at a time. Be prepared to tape them ALL up. Well, I'm yet to try the "reset gear" method but using tape to cover the toner detection window works better for me than resetting the cartridge via the control panel. Whereas resetting the cartridge via the control panel only allows one sheet to print before the LCD reverts to the rather annoving "Toner Life End" message, thus far taping the window has allowed printing of several sheets in succession with no indication that the toner is even getting low. (My printer is the same as yours: HL-4040CN.) These postings are great... I have a Ricoh printer that also stopped printing due to toner. I found this forum while searching for an answer, and decided to take a look at my cartridges. Lo and behold, there were the little round windows on each side. I covered the windows with tape, and I am back in business! THANK YOU! Thanks for the comeback. It seems like the tape method is the most popular, so I'll stick with that simple solution. For those wondering why manufacturers use a system that encourages cartridge replacement, consider this.....My Brother HL-4040CN cost \$199 on sale at Staples. It came with 4 cartridges, that cost \$60+ each (\$240+). Bottom line, they gave me the printer and \$40 to get me on board to purchase as many cartridges as possible. Their business model is to sell as many printers as possible, even at a loss, so they can sell lots of highly profitable toner cartridges. Thank goodness for forums like this, and black electrical tape! Good luck. Someone explain this, please...I bought a 9840CDW 2 months ago. So far I probably printed 100 BW text pages and another 100 or so CD color labels and CD color booklets. Yesterday I had my first big run: 50 full color duplex flyers with an image size of 7x9 inches on the 8.5x11 area. I checked the toner levels prior to starting. and all 4 colors were as full as the first 50 pages came out, I sent the comand to print another 50 pages, and in the print dialog box I got a "Low Toner" warning message. I checked the levels, and all were still full as the first day, except for the magenta toner which showed up as 90\% empty! The image was not a 7x9 solid magenta block; it is an outdoor garden image with some text floating on top of the image on one side and a light clouds with more text on the other side.I'm aware of the 5\% yield theory and I read about the black tape trick and the software cartridge reset but, come on! Aren't these fixes a little premature in my case? I only printed 50 duplex pages! Are the factory installed cartridges so small? Why didn't the other 3 toners show no change at all?Any clues anyone please? I tried the fix cited here for the 4070 cdw and it worked!!! Thanks so much. I like the printer fairly well, but am very frustrated that it requires all of the colored cartridges be replaced at the same time. It happend twice within 4 months and at \$50-\$88/cartridge for four cartridges, i'm considering a different printer. Is this typical for this machine? Why would all the cartridges empty at exactly the same time? How about for the HL-1440? There's no sensors I can see and it only has a single button. I can shake the toner cart a few times and get a few more pages each time(that look great). but my kids and wife are on my case thanks! I have a Brother DCP-330C inkjet, can someone please tell me what to do to make cartridges last longer I am forever changing a cartridge and as soon as I replace one, another runs out. Do I have to cover the sensors? Does this work on this model? I have tried replacing black with yellow Brother cartridge and then putting back black compatible but doesn't work. Any help would be most appreciated as I need to print a couple of pages urgently!!! A couple things to bear in mind if using the "cover the hole" method: Make sure that tape or whatever you use to cover the hole is SECURELY IN PLACE. Otherwise if it comes off and gets into the works of the printer, you might have to call a technician and be left with a BIG repair bill. A good alternative to tape is Cling brand floral clay; It's VERY sticky and once applied, is sure to remain in place until you deliberately remove it. It's a bit pricey but worth it, IMO. Also, closely monitor print quality and at the first sign of that color (coming from the cartridge you modified) going, replace the cartridge. Failing to do so can shorten the life of your printer. Thanks for the post, it was very helpful. I have tried this with the TN-110 cartridges/HL-4070CDW and it works perfectly. I believe that once the printer detects the low toner optically, it goes to a page count to determine when it thinks the toner is empty. I have not taped it, as I still intend to buy a new cartridge, but this should last a while anyway. Hi, Just bought printer recently, and despite error/low toner message, i've continued to use the toner cartridge that came with the printer cuz the guality is OK. BUT.... i notice an odor now when i print. Anybody know why? Is there any chance i'm damaging the drum, or something else, by continuing to print despite low toner?thanks!!bjp.s. it's HL-2170w model Worked great for me with a HL-2140. You are a genius, Brother should be ashamed. With my HL-4040 CN I quickly got an intermittent "low toner" signal on the LCD display for the magenta toner. This was weird, as I was printing lots of black, with some yellow, and only a little bit of red or blue. Then without warning (that I noticed), I got a "toner life end" error message on the LCD panel for the black toner, and couldn't print. I'd already bought a replacement black (high-capacity), because I knew I was going to be doing a lot of printing. Well, I was originally quite happy, because I got almost 3000 pages out of the black toner cartridge shipped with the new printer, which was over the design specification. But I was surprised, considering that the print quality seemed fine. After replacing the black, and more printing, I got the "low toner" signal steadily for the magenta, and then suddenly (at the same time) for magenta and cyan too. After a few hundred more pages I got the "toner" end life" on all three simultaneously. This was definitely fishy. Thanks to this forum I am on the way to fixing this. The tape didn't try very hard). But the toner reset on the hidden menu has helped. —DIV worked for TN-580 brother cartridge also. I used clear tape and then used black marker on that and it worked well too. KMRN DAMN!!! This works like a charm. 1. Remove the toner from the printer 2. Put small balck tape on the small sensors on the side 3. Put Toner back and you are back in Business Print till the cows come home... Imagine the environmental toll of chucking awaya toner that can give you a lot more printed pages. WOW!!!!Thank you cheers Guys ... Of course you forgot to factor in the cost of paper, and that is included in the kinkos price. I have a HL-5250 and have probably printed less than 1500 pages, but the toner light is on and it won't print (the last pages it did print were fine). I tried covering the sensor windows, but it didn't work. I'm thinking about trying the flag reset, but do you know if my printer has "a built-in waste toner reservoir"? I don't want to do any damage. Thanks. Also worked on TN-110 cartridge. Thanks! On most machines network cards its just by typing in the IP address of the machine in the web browser to pull up the Interface. Some machines tell you on one of the report pages or you can get it off the usuage page in service mode which holds lots of intresting information about your machine. What is the model?Example: 192.102.10.125 Where is the sensor hole to cover up?I have an MFC-8440 which has been great, but I'd love to save on toner. This last time I bought a generic cartridge and it has worked fine, but is now low, or so it says. I don't see an obvious sensor hole. Any tips? Thanks. Hi all, Works on HL-4050CDN as well, and like the previous poster, repeated here to save hunting all over the page for the routine: For the toner life reset menu: 1 Open the front cover of the printer2 press and hold the cancel button3 press the reprint button WHILE still holding cancel- here is the reset menu - go to the appropriate cartridge on- the menu and reset it and you're done!FYI... Pressing the "Go" button and the up arrow gives you the parts life reset menu (drum, laser, fuser, etc.) I'm guessing that the abbreviations are: B.TNR-S means black, toner, standard (next option is B.TNR-H which I assumed meant High (capacity) but if anyone knows different I'd like to know. Thank you thank you thank you thank you posters, I reckon you just saved me a couple of hundred guids a year. Thanks for the 4-29 post about the menu, but where is the hole to cover on the TN-570 cartridge (same as the TN-540)?Thanks Here's what I think about which method works best...There seems to be a standard number of pages when the printer "thinks" the toner is empty and wants you to refill. This is when would use the control panel reset instructions.then...As far as covering the windows, it seems that the printer "thinks" the cartridges are empty when the toner falls below a certain level. As we all know, that level is like 3/4 full so blocking the windows with tape makes the printer "think" that the cartridge is still full of toner since the laser (or whatever it is) cant shine through to the other side. I would try this if resetting the toner life in the control panel doesn't get you printing. Next time I replace cartirdges (when it's REALLY needed) I plan on putting the tape on the window to start just to get it done! haven't ever done anything with resetting the gear, and as you can see from my last post, I am on my 3rd reset of the toner life in the control panel. To me that seems like it might be a little too much drama when the other methods are already doing the job (for me). well my "previous" post I mentioned hasn't gone up yet so maybe you will see it soon... I cant get it to work with my TN580 BROTHER Printer! : (Help Please! I have a Brother HL4070 and have gone through 3 sets of toner cartridges; so have spent 3X the cost of the printer on toner alone! It was 11:00 pm and my highschool junior was printing his presentation for tommorow's class when the yellow cartridge "ran out". Out of shear desperation, I searched for a solution, and came upon this forum. I found the above post particularly helpful, especially the link to the excelent article on remanufacturing the cartridge [I did try covering the sensor hole, but no luck, still complained about "empty toner", but I could see quite a bit of toner inside my yellow cartridge (TN115Y). So tried the "resseting the gear" suggestion, and worked like a charm! You do NOT have to dismantle the cartridge, or even remove the end plate. A ballpoint pen inserted through the gap is enough to slide the gear back on the spring to the "full" position. Printer is working fine without any complaints.PS: The smell from the Brother printers is supposedly the smell of Ozone, due to the materials used in the toner, and heat. According to Brother, it is not a "dangerous" amount. As a precaution I have networked the printer and moved it to our family room, and away from the bedrooms upstairs. I rather like the smell. Besides, ozone is actually good for you. As a matter of fact, we have a clinic in Barbados that offers ozone therapy for all sorts of maladies and some clients have reported amazing results!BTW, for those wondering if the yellow cartridge whose sensor hole I covered some time ago still has toner - it certainly does! There has been no degradation in print quality whatsoever. And I've printed quite a bit since covering that hole. I have a Brother HL 517ODN with TN 540 cartridges and got the low toner message which halted printing. I applied the electrical tape to the non gear side peep hole with no resumption in printing. Printing resumed perfectly after covering the gear side peep hole on the cartridge as well. This was an awesome fix. Thanks to everyone! Down with Big Brother! Up with DIY!!! There have been several postings that recommend "covering the sensor eve" with dark tape. I'm using a Brother HL-2140 laserjet printer, and NONE of the postings so far seem to help. I have covered everything that remotely might be a "sensor eye", but the yellow low toner light still goes on and the printer will not print even though it got a fresh refill of toner yesterday. Does anyone have further instructions or ideas on how to deal with the Brother HL 2140. Thanks in advance for help. Thanks to all who contributed here. This worked for me with the gear reset (I have a 5250DN) - had to try it twice, though worked for me when I closely followed the figures in this: that you only have to execute the instructions in figures 14-16. Last December "Anonymous" posted the following. None of the steps to put tape over various holes and eyes worked on my Brother HL-2140, but the following from "Anonymous" did work for me.Re: Brother toner cartridge low toner override by Anonymous (12/10/08 1:03 AM) This worked for me - I have a HL-2040. It resets the page counter: 1. Open the front cover and leave open while completing the following steps: 2. Turn the printer off. 3. Hold the 'go' button while turning the printer on. All panel lights should be on. 4. Release the 'go' button. 5. Press the 'go' button 2 times. 6. Pause. 7. Press the 'go' button 5 times. 8. The toner light should be off. 9. The paper light should be on or flashing. 10. Close cover. The ready light should be the only light on. When you look at all the many postings about this problem over several years, it seems ridiculous that the typical non-tech homeowner should have to put up with so many problems. It takes MAGIC to solve them, and is enough to be a TOTAL TURN-OFF for the average homeowner who is trying to use a computer system. I didn't have any electrical tape so I used a file lable that had a dark blue corner and stuck it over the eye and secured it with some scotch tape. It worked like a charm! Yeah! The following method below worked for HL-2140. THANKS! I routinely check my levels myself and am using a starter cartridge on 3rd refill. Still looks

great and have not bought flag gear. I needed a way to use my printer without buying a new cartridge (yet) and this worked for me. 1. Open the front cover and leave open while completing the following steps. 2. Turn the printer off. 3. Hold the 'go' button while turning the printer on. All panel lights should be on.4. Release the 'go' button.5. Press the 'go' button 2 times.6. Pause.7. Press the 'go' button 5 times.8. The toner light should be on or flashing.10. Close cover. The ready light should be the only light on. Thanks, I knew that my toner wasn't out after I only printed 275 pages, I would get the clean the corona wire, but the thing that was actually making my printer print was me lifting the toner vertically to clean the corona wire which would put toner on the sensor. The "tape on the sensor" DIY works perfectly with my Brother HL-2070N printer. No more toner LED lights for me! I have a MFC-9440CN with 2700 pages printed using the original cartridges, and then for the three color cartridges. So I tried the tape over the window/square hole tricks, but that did not work consistently. Then I tried to reset the counters as described by Brett in SoCal, and I no longer get the low toner message. Thanks!!! When doing the reset for the "Toner life end" on the 7820N, remember to tape the toner "eyes". If this is not done, there is no way the reset will work. I tried the : Front door open/start/10/front door closed procedure and it worked so far. Not sure who posted the tip below but Thank you, the sensors didn't work but this saved my wife's business. toner life reset menu: 1 Open the front cover of the printer 2 press and hold the cancel button 3 press the reprint button WHILE still holding cancel- here is the reset menu - go to the appropriate cartridge on- the menu and reset it and you're done! FYI... Pressing the "Go" button and the up arrow gives you the parts life reset menu (drum, laser, fuser, etc.) Have a Brother 4100e and was able to resume printing after using the electrical tape trick in 3 places: one very small eye above where the drum cartridge sits on the right and two larger, glass eyes on either side of where the drum cartridge sits, left and right. Replaced the drum cartridge and back in business. I hope this saves someone else from toner drama! Can you override and inkjet printer? I have a Brother MFC 5490CN Just got the message that "drum" needs replacing on my MFC-9840. Is there any built in hard stop with that component like there is with the toner cartridges? I haven't noticed any degradataion in print guality, so I'm wondering why the drum would need replacing...and we are talking about the part that holds the toner cartridges, right? Thanks, Mike Kay, I haven't bought a new drum yet, so I don't have the instructions for resetting the drum counter. How do you reset the drum counter? Am I a half wit? My Brother HL-4050CDN said replace black toner this morning and it had stopped printing. I did this and for a while it spewed out some goobledigook (previously sent docs I guess, but just coming out as stars and squiggles). Having cleared this backlog from the Print gueue and tried turning off and on again both the computer and the printer, I now have a totally unresponsive printer. Any print job I send, gets no reaction from the machine although its display says 'READY'. Meanwhile, the three other toner dots (Y M C) are flashing. Is this a case for the tried and tested duct tape or what else would you suggest? Thanks! Have a Brother HL-2140 Monochrome Laser Printer in which I replaced the TN-360 toner cartridge with a new cartridge. After installing, the toner LED indicator still showed the cartridge to be low on toner. I called customer service and they tried unsuccessfully to turn off the LED indicator and ended up saying they would replace the cartridge if it were less than 90 days old (which it wasn't) otherwise I could continue to use it as there would be no damage to the system or reduction of life. Printed 123 pages when a pop-up on my computer screen said to clean the corona wire. Cleaned per their instructions and tried again to print and got the same pop-up. Repeated a half dozen times without success. Called customer service... they had me repeat the cleaning proceedure; shake the toner cartridge end to end and do other operations such as hold down a switch under the front cover while I turned power on to the printer; pressing the switch twice & pressing the switch 6 times, none of which fixed the problem. They then said the only solution would be to replace the toner cartridge with a new one, but again they would not replace it, since it was more than 90 days old. Thought I would give a try to see what would happen if I blindfolded the toner level sensor port... IT WORKS!!! It has been printing like new with no "low toner" LED or pop-up to "clean corona wire." Worked so far for the 2170. I did the flag gear reset on my HL-5250DN cartridges following the advice on this forum. 1 minute of work per cartridge involving a phillips headed screwdriver - Job done :-)Thank God Brother don't make beer - "Sorry Sir, you have consumed 1/4 of your pint so you must now tip the rest down the sink and buy another one!" I love the internet. I used the black tape tactic but that didn't do it. Thank you for posting about the flag gear AND for including the link with pictures!!! That did the trick, I am printing away again. I appreciate it so much...and I'm also feeling quite handy today. ;) Recently, 2 cartridges (cyan and magenta) on my HL-4040CN that had been indicating they were low, suddenly and simultaneously quit on me. (Oh come on! Does Brother really think consumers are so stupid to believe that 2 cartridges would become empty at exactly the same time?) Anyway, the purpose of this post is to show that what worked for one cartridge wouldn't necessarily work for the other cartridges, even though they are from the same printer. (Go figure!) From my earlier contributions to this thread, readers will recall that all I did to revive my supposedly "empty" yellow cartridge was to cover one of its windows. Well, I figured that method would work for these other cartridges as well. But it didn't until I also reset them via the printer's control panel (as explained by aet2u and others earlier in this thread). We have a Brother HL-4040CN which conveniently decides that all three of the colour toners are empty at the same time, BUT with our machine is impossible as it rarely prints colour. We also noticed the removed toner cartridges were the same weight as the new ones and could see toner through the little round windows so I contacted Brother who advised me to reset the toner counters as the machine counts the pages and assumes the carbon is depleted, that's ok if you remember to do it at the right time.BUT thanks to this forum I taped the holes on both sides of the carrier on all four toner slots and was able to put an old "supposedly Empty" Toner back in which seems to have tricked the machine into thinking it's a new one. This hopefully will save us hundreds. Thanks guys above for all your tips. Brilliant!! Thank you all! It worked also on a Brother MFC-260C.Commercialism raring its greedy head and we can take back control...a good feeling even if just a little control ;o)! On my HL 2070n (network version) with the original TN350 cartridge:* I tried covering just the sensor window on the non-gear side of the cartridge* I tried covering both windows (gear and non-gear side)* I tried covering the sensor windows on the inside of printer* I tried holding down the go button after opening the toner door, waiting until the three front lights were on, then putting the toner back in and closing the door to try to reset the toner counterNone of the above worked! It still has a solid amber toner light. I also did a factory reset, i.e. turn the printer on with the go button held down until all lights are on, release go and wait until the lights go out, then press go 6 times and wait for reset. Again nothing worked!! I don't understand how you other guys with 2070's are getting this to work but it's not for me. Hello. I came across your site, as I was looking for tips on how to make my printer ink last longer. I have a Brother HL-4040CND lazer printer, and its telling me that dreaded message, life end ink. And I KNOW there is ink left! I contacted Brother about this and asked them to help me with this override thing, and he told me there is no trick that he is aware of. Well, I heard there is a way to override this message but, I can't figure it out. I examined the cartridge and I can't find the "chip" or eye hole is situated to cover it up to fool the machine to print again. This is SOOOO frustrating!!!! HELP!!!! Sue. SueCB, are you sure your printer model number is HL-4040CND or did you mean HL-4040CDN (or perhaps HL-4050CDN)? I just want to be sure because although there is indeed such a printer as the HL-4040CND, one can easily get confused!! fit's HL-4040CDN, you can download its manual from and see if there's anything there to help. (Just right click the link and from the context menu choose "Save Link As...") hope this helps. Hi, I have a BROTHER 2170W printer and I don't know how to reset the low toner override. If you can help me out with instructions that would be great. Thanks. Hi aab107...can you elaborate? I'm not guite sure I understand your delimma. The display on my HL-4040CN started flashing, indicating low toner, so I performed all 3 of the cures recommended..1) Block the optical sensor hole on each cartridge2) Remove the end-cap from each cartridge and reset the flag gear3 Reset the software counter for each cartridgeThe whole job was easy and took less than 15 minutes, and the display stopped flashing. Here's my guestion....I'm using the initial starter cartridges and will probably purchase larger cartridges when these eventually run out of toner. Like a previous poster asked...what would be the downside of simply removing the flag gear and spring (they come off easily) instead of resetting it to the start position? I know this gear also has a tang that changes the bias voltage as the toner is depleted, but wonder if removing it would make a noticeable difference. Thanks for all the great help. - Dave "I have the same printer. Have tried the tape over the optical sensor without success."Did you block all 4 of the holes that the sensor monitors (one on each cartridge)? Some block those holes/windows on the individual cartridges. I found it easier to block the 4 holes located on the outside of the cartridge pullout tray, that align with the plastic windows on each cartridge. Good luck. Bingo! MFC9840CDW. black low toner warning. Used dark opague electrical tape. Covered one hole, no luck. Covered a second hole and.... behold! I'm back in business. Shook the cartridge gently side to side, just for good luck. Thanks so much guys. Re: Brother MFC-9840CDWPrinter has 4 cartridges 3 color (magenta, cyan. Yellow) & black. Printer is used mainly (90\%) noncolor printing so I was puzzled when magenta low toner message appeared 1st. Then yellow and cyan. appeared, but printer continued to print. Then when black went "low" and then "out" I replaced the black but...printer would not function. Called Brother tech. support and they informed me that unless I select "mono" rather then "auto" the printer still uses color drums. Thanks for telling me that now! I bought new color cartridges and replaced each, one at a time, and the message for that toner would disappear. Then I would put back in the old cartridge and replace the next color new cartridge. After doing this the printer printed fine using the old cartridges. I again called tech. support and complained but they just said that the printer operates off some page count. So how do I override this page count so that it uses all the toner? This is a new machine and my first toner replacement @ \$80 per toner cartridge I need to run them dry!! on the TN-540 toner cartridge whitch on is the sensor hole? Hello all. I tried to send this message before but, dont' think it made it. I have photographs of my printer, and where I've plugged the wholes. You can view it here maybe this will help. have a great weekend! For the Brother TN360 you can buy a kit to refill your cartridge. I also bought the reset gear as my original cartridge didnt have one. Its pretty easy to refill, just remove the cap (hidden behind a sticker) empty ALL the old toner and refill with new. The reset gear is at the opposite end and you need to remove some screws to access it. You can buy / get more info here (US) Where is the sensor window to tape over on a non-oem toner cartridge for a 2170W? I have a plastic toner container slotted into a plastic sled, then the sled + container combo slide into the printer. Is the sensor hole on the right side of the sled? Is it a 1/4 inch circular hole in the black plastic of the sled that you are supposed to tape over? Or is it a place on the toner cartridge? Is it on the bottom of the sled, or on the side? I can't find the sensor spot. I've got 4 pieces of Sharpied masking tape littering the sled, and no results. Thanks. mastjab - If that model has a low-toner detector there will be a hole/window on each end of the cartridge and hold one end up to a bright light. Looking at the other end you may be able to see light through a hole/window on that end. When the toner gets low the light can go all the way through and be seen by a sensor that tells the printer's "brain" that the toner is low. The light source and sensor are mounted inside the printer cabinet, so there are also corresponding holes in the tray, so the light beam isn't obstructed. The purpose of the tape is to intentionally obstruct the light beam, so the "brain" thinks the cartridge is full. Some block the hole/window on the cartridge, while I blocked the corresponding hole in the tray, it doesn't make any difference as long as the light beam is blocked from reaching the sensor. Hope this helps. You are the MAN.Worked like a champFrank brother printer MFC-7225NThanks guys coverd the two light readers and unscrewed the end with the cogs, there is a white plastic lever that needs to move 180 degrees counter clock wise, you cant push it back you need to take out the three screws lift up the plastic casing lift out the top lever section and physically move it back and then it will work fine. I just put the piece of tape on the sensor and got another 500 pages or so, so far. On the brother HL4040CN (and probably the HL4070CDW too) the "window" to tape was on the gear side and was a clear plastic thing hidden behind another plastic guard with a hole that lined up with the clear plastic window. The plastic window is on both sides of the toner cartridge, so I would presume that on different brother printers, the sensor is on different sides. 3,000 pages later I'm still on the stock toner cartridges. MFC9840CDWElectrical tape on the right side of the toner.so far about 700 pages extra and counting... might hit 1000 who knows...Trick works like a charm, props to the forum;) "The plastic window is on both sides of the toner cartridge, so I would presume that on different brother printers, the sensor is on different sides,"It doesn't matter which side of the printer cabinet the light source and sensor, thus defeating the low-toner warning. I reckon this thread must have saved contributors to the thread, lurkers and visitors just passing through looking for solutions to their "empty" toner situation, hundreds of thousands dollars that would have otherwise been unnecessarily spent replacing the cartridges.Just think about it. My GOD! Man! You are the BEST! that little trick gave me many, more prints. What a waste of toner if I hadn't looked this problem up. Thanks alot! Tape over the eye thing worked great! HL-4040CDNLow warning on all colors except black at same time about 1500 copies on new machine. Tape cover of holes not effective.gear end not probable for all at same time. Must be software. Tried menue and can not find reset as stated in RVdave 8/27/09 door open and press BACK button Who has detailed info for this model woodyb - Try this procedure, that was reported to work on the HL 4050CDN....For the toner life reset menu:1 Open the front cover of the printer2 press and hold the cancel button3 press the reprint button WHILE still holding cancel4 If a reset menu displays. reset all the cartridgesGood luck YES YOU CAN RIG AN INKJET BROTHER PRINTER TO RUN WITHOUT REPLACING THE COLOR CARTRIDGES!!!On my Brother MCF 5490 cn I was able to easily slide back the front piece of the printer cartridges and tape over the clear part that becomes exposed. Works like a charm!!! The only thing to worry about is when the remaining ink does dry up, it can damage your printer at a later date if you try to print in color. Now I am very happy with my brother printer... Brother HL 5250DNI tapped the sensor holes on both sides as well as on the printer. Nothing. I then followed JUPPO's instructions: I want to override toner replacement on a Brother laser HL1400. Anyone know a semi-permanent technique such as the electrical-tape-over for my machine? I used a page reset code, but it's a pain to do it every time I want to print. I don't see an eye or a white switch that is mentioned on other Brothers. Here's the page count reset I'm using if anyone wants it: 1. Open the front cover and leave open while completing the following steps. 2. Turn the printer off. 3. Hold the 'go' button while turning the printer on. All panel lights should be on. 4. Release the 'go' button. 5. Press the 'go' button 2 times. 6. Pause. 7. Press the 'go' button 5 times. 8. The toner light should be on or flashing. 10. Close cover. The ready light should be the only light on. Voila! It works! Thanks all and Thanks Juppo! WOW!! Thanks! Hi!I'm "technically challenged" and am hoping someone can help me with a drum replacement error. 1. How do I know if it really needs replaced?2. Are there any tricks to making the drum last longer? Thanks for all your help--and the great information on the toner replacement strategy! Hey, it works! Covering the little circular window with tape was so easy and it saves replacing the cartridge, which seemed to be working fine. I'm not a scientist or anything but basically when a brother printer says the toner is spent it isn't joking or trying to rip you off. The residual toner in the cartridge isnt' capable of maintaining a proper charge. Continuing to use this "substandard" toner can cause problems down the road. That's the claim and it seems to make sense really. It was explained in detail in the instructions that came with my refill kit detailing why all residual toner should be removed before refilling. I hope this helps to prevent some people from ruining their printers or other expensive parts. Just get a refill kit and save lots of money. Anonymous, considering the sheer quantity of quality printing many of the contributors to this thread have done since getting the "Toner Life End" message, we are hard pressed to believe that only "residual" amounts of toner remains in those cartridges. Re my HL 4040CDN Thanks for the replys but none seemed to work or have enough detail for me to get it done. I found a website for reset of the gears complete with photos and instructions. It is good luck i have the 9040cn with the tn110 toners that come with the printer i started getting low toners and end of life warnings at around 950pages, all my pages are half page full color and other half page black letters. i did the fix and now my page count is 1712pages... 200pages over the normal 1500 tn110 limit... and it is still going strong! these printer companies seriously ripping us off with these false warnings... MFC7420 BrotherBest Solutionposted on Jan 21, 2008Javelin395Rank: Apprentice Rating: 92\%, 11 votes1. Open the front cover door.2. Press the "Options" button.3. Type *00 on the keypad. This will clear the error message. Enjoy! This forum is saving the planet. Can you imagine how much toner has gone into landfills as a result of bogus "low toner" messages??Personally I love Brother products because of their value for money and the features you get. If only we could convince Brother to let us know these tips and tricks from day one we could get the best value from every gram of toner and they would have even more customers. I can't stand the brands that write the bogus toner level to an electronic chip on the cartridge - that way you can't do the sort of reset thingy posted on tis forum. Maybe it's time we took some of these manufacturers to court for environmental destruction. Hi. Got a Brother CDW 4070 colour laser printer. I print about 2000 sheets a month, nearly all in black text. I put a little colour on odd lines, perhaps ten words a page. It seems the machine sees any colour as a full colour page. It says the cartridge is empty when it is full - a licence for Brother to print money at about £100 for a colour cartridge. Can I reset the toner cartridges to stop them telling the printer that a few words means a page? Thanks for any tips. Nigel Nigel said - "Can I reset the toner cartridges to stop them telling the printer that a few words means a page?" Nigel - Unfortunately, ANY copy made counts as a copy on each cartridge, even though the copy may be all black. Some models allow you to put the printer in a "monochrome" mode, so only the black cartridge is used and the counters for the color cartridges are disabled. The downside of this, however, is that you'd have to switch back to full color mode every time you need some color. Good luck. This worked for my HL-2140. Wife was telling me she tried everything even replacing the toner and it kept telling her toner was low. This is a great tip!! "We just refill the toner cartridge but still it shows toner end of life...Please help..." is simply not enough information to help you.Exactly which model of Brother laser printer are you referring to? Have you carefully read this thread before posting the question? The answer may already be here. Have a Brother HL-2140, refilled it's initial TN-330 cart. after emptying the residual toner and installed the extra gears.Now the print is not black but dark grey, tried all the adjustments I could find but nothing helps except lowering the DPI to 300 which makes the print a bit darker, but still not black.Any suggestions on what to do?I did the multi step reset outlined in this forum, the only change is that on the print test page the Toner level indicator graph dropped from 90\% to 50\%. Perhaps related: Am not sure about how to set the position of the flag gear, at what "hour" should it point after install? Please help, thanks, Eldad Googled 'brother toner empty' and found this, taped over the clear window on the toner with electrical tape, put the toner cart back in and BOOM, perfect prints! I have a HL 4030CN and the taping trick has worked for my magenta and cyan but fails to work on yellow. Anyone else encounter this problem and have you been able to develop a fix? Anonymous said - "I have a HL 4030CN and the taping trick has worked for my magenta and cyan but fails to work on yellow."Maybe the reset procedure for the HL 4040CN will work...1) Open the door as if you were going to change the toners2) Press the Clear/Back button 3) The Reset Menu appears4) Reset all of the TNR-S settings(four of them - one for each color). If two settings are shown for each cartridge, reset all 8.Good luck. Dave, thanks for the suggestion but its still a no go. This printer doesn't have a "Clear" button but I assumed "Cancel" was its replacement. Control panel displayed "no data". I also have reset to "Factory Settings"I've purchased a new yellow toner (the offender) and I continue to receive a "replace cartridge..." message. Cyan and magenta are taped over. Sort of odd but I get a cyan and magenta toner low message and no mention of yellow until after sending a job. The offending cartridge set works in another printer. But fails for yellow when returned to the original printer still isn't working but I did learn, with your help, that I could reset the long life consumables by pressing Go and +.I'll try the taped cartridges in a different printer tomorrow and report back. Thanks for the help. I just had the yellow toner 'end of life' on my HL 4040CDN Brother. I tried the electrical tape thing and nothing worked so I went out and bought a new toner cartridge for \$89CAD. I compared the print copy between the old and new toner under a magnifying glass and could find no difference. After printing about 10 copies with the new cartridge, I put the old cartridge back in and the 'end of life' did not come. The copies were perfect (with the original cartridge). Over 200 more copies and still can't tell the difference. I just resealed the new cartridge and will wait until the original one is actually empty. I wonder if I can use the new yellow cartridge to 'reset' the others? Does the printer know which toner is in which slot? Worked for me! No more solid yellow toner light or solid red status light. I only have a green status light now! Not having electrical tape I layered up a piece of the handyman's secret weapon and cut it and put it on there. Works great! ok so what do you do if there is no switch and your job is fresh out of eletrical tape? I have to get this and I'm the only one here and this freaking thing has the toner end life message and won't do anything???????? help me please!!!!!!!!!" How do people expect to get help if they don't give enough information? Anonymous, to WHICH MODEL printer are you referring? You need help desperately, yet that vital piece of information is missing! What's up with that? My Brother 2170 toner light just came on. It still has the original starter toner cartridge. How much more can I print before I need to replace the toner? Thanks. I have a Brother DCP 7010 Printer. When i replaced the toner cartridge then after 20 Print out machine display is showing that toner life is end. So please help me how can i solve this problem while cartridge is full. Please help me. A repeat of my asking for help from 3 weeks ago, perhaps someone who did not see it before has a suggestion or solution? Have a Brother HL-2140, refilled it's initial TN-330 cart. after emptying the residual toner and installed the extra gears. Now the print is not black but dark grey (density is too low), tried all the adjustments I could find but nothing helps except lowering the DPI to 300 which makes the print a bit darker, but still not black. Any suggestions on what to do?I did the multi step reset outlined in this forum and covered the tonner window with black tape, the only change is that on the print test page the Toner level indicator graph dropped from 90\% to 50\%. Perhaps related: Am not sure about how to set the position of the flag gear. at what "hour" of an imaginary clock should it's white flag point after installation? Thanks for any help, Eldad haha i now print till the toner is empty... the roller on the cartridge is completely dry.. haha maybe this will shorten the printer part's life.. but i don't care haha For the TN-110 cartridge, has anybody found a place that sells the the reset gear that needs to be used to make it a NT-115. The NT-110 has a grey gear with 1 rib (finger) but the NT-115 has 2 ribs (fingers) to give wire a higher voltage if completely filled. My full refill in the cartridge that came with the printer TN-110 is working fine, but would like to get the right gear for it. I found a place in Australia on eBay, but only sells the gear with the refills as an extra. Looking forward to hear about a place where I can get them, Farmer Johan I successfully reset my genuine Brother TN-110 Cyan, Magenta and Yellow cartridges. I have a 4040CDN and no amount of sensor covering - via electrical tape or sharpie black marker was working for me but thanks to reading through all of the threads on this site, as well as other googling, I was able to re-set them with the internal gear re-shift. In my opinion, and I am a former Xerox filed technician, it seems impossible to re-set them without performing this step. The photo that says "Set the reset gear and spring as shown." - the second to the last step is all you need to know. Hope this helps someone. I'm curious to see how many extra prints I will get out of them...if anyone's interested, I'll post again when I actually "have to" replace them. I have a Brother HL4040CN less than one year old. I've only printed about 40-50 pages and am getting "End Toner Life" message for all colors! I have never got a Low Toner warning. It will not even attempt to print a page if the page has color on it. I've pulled the cartages and shook them, cleaned the wires, etc. and none of this does any good. It seems after a period of time there is some built-in feature that gives the message and locks it up. Before I take it to the dump, does anyone have any suggestions?PO'edCAB Works on the 5150D as well. Thanks for the info saved me a BIG printing headache today.. I had to stop a print and got a paper jam. Cleared the jam, and then got end of toner message although only put in 6 weeks ago. Toner cartridge TN2000. The last one lasted a year. I have no solutions, only observations that someone may benefit from. I spoke to Brother techie today and he said that on a cartridge being inserted it tripped a switch. Couldn't be reset, he said!!Returning the cartridge, but hereafter I will keep the 'spent' to refill newer ones. Also noted, white lever on the 'old' one all the way back, whereas on the new one, all the way to the front. Gently tried to move forward, but no go. Didn't push hard as nearly full and hope to get a new one. Also noted that the silver disc on the new one (left hand side front) total, whereas on the old one, 3/4 moon. When I get an old one I will try and flip the switch forward, and maybe cover the hole at the front (left hand side, sharp end) away from you, as if you were going to load it), or try the options/00 trick. If there is a switch, then something on the toner cartridge is tripping it. There has to be a release pin somewhere to allow the easy winding of the gears. As I said, observations, my last old (the old one before replacement by the now 'old' one) cartridge was doing a good printing job until the machine refused to allow printing. On the older machines, there was a reset procedure but I guess they wanted more revenue so withheld this, or changed the mechanism. If they are reusing, then there must be a reset/hole/button mechanism which is easy to allow the gears to move easily, if you know what to do. Thanks Caryboe. Using the link, it took me just 15 mins to reset all three colours on an HL - 4040CN. The RHS of the end cover feels like it won't come off and I was initially worried about breaking it but. with a little gentle persuasion it was OK.I will now make regular visits to this forum in the hope that I will be able to contribute. Thanks again. H H I covered up the viewing port with scotch tape and used a sharpie to color it in on my hl-2170w. It works! I have an MFC-7840W and have used both the TN-330 and TN-360 cartridges - both of which I thought had very low page yields. I was delighted to run into this thread and thank everyone for contributing. I was having trouble figuring out which one of the many holes was the sensor to cover, but it looks like I have figured it out: For this model, the TN-330 and TN-360 cartridges go into a larger plastic black tray before going into the printer. There is a hole (as mentioned by another user, a little smaller than size of a dime) on the RIGHT side of the tray/cartridge (facing the front of the printer) that I covered up, and I have just printed a page, it printed out perfectly, and the "LOW TONER" message has disappeared... I used a small 1/2 x 1/2 inch piece of scotch tape which I even colored with a BLUE (for the lack of BLACK marker here) and it worked! Lol.... thank you to all who have contributed. Hi GuysThanks so much for your advice on placing tape over the eye, it saved me a lot of trouble with this printer. I was going to throw it through a window when it kept saying it was out of toner, but the last page printed fine (and it was a new cartridge). Andy Same here about what an awesome override, the tape I mean, on the non-gear side of the MFC8640 toner cartridge sensor. A little bubble eye, the toner level sensor, is on the inside right wall of the printer cavity where the toner/drum cartidge rests. Look with a flashlight, you will see it a few inches from the front. Saved a few hundred dollars on a replacement fax. I hate throwing away an otherwise perfectly good appliance. Merry Christmas, fa la la la, la la la la la la, la la la cartridge returned to Brother has been returned to me, reset. So the nonsense about not being able to reset is male bovine excrement, so my reasoning is correct, there is a reset hole somewhere to allow the lever to be moved easily. The 4070 can autoduplex, but it needs to be set on screen as follows: FilePrintSelect HL4070CDW if you have more than one printer connected to the computerPropertiesOpen Duplex/Booklet (at right of screen) Tick DuplexOK. Remember to check for the next batch of duplex printing; the printer may reset automatically to non-duplex. Nigel "Remember to check for the next batch of duplex printing; the printer may reset automatically to non-duplex."Nigel, I don't have an HL-4070CDW but I'm guessing that if you want your printer to do duplex printing by default, just click Start > Printers and Faxes > right-click "Brother HL-4070CDW" and choose either "Printing Preferences" or "Properties" > Open Duplex/Booklet > check Duplex and hit OK. That way duplex printing would be the default setting for every program on the computer. (To my knowledge, that's the way most printers work in a Windows) environment.)Cheers TY TYget more life out of our toner. HL 2070 - just use electrical tape on the two inside sensors (one on the right). This will fix the issue. Yes, indeed it works... jst cover the round hole on the right side (non gear side). I did not notice any image quality reduction prior to the printer deciding it was out of toner. I suspect this auto shutoff "feature" was a boardroom answer to "how can we increase profit?". Well fortunately there are regular folks who can hold a web discussion on "how can we preserve cash?". With electrical tape, same way we fix our glasses! Power to the people! hy all i have a DCP 130c. and i just made an update to my firmware. version 4!after the update the printer shows missing cyan, low yellow and low black. but red is full.so, i tried to tell the printer that i installed new cartridges but no success. so i taped the cartridges and problem solved but can there be any damage to the printer head? won't it get dry after trying to print with an empty cartridge (when i will be truly empty i mean).please help.thank you. chenrp stated: "hy all i have a DCP 130c. and i just made an update to my firmware. version 4!after the update the printer shows missing cyan, low yellow and low black. but red is full.so, i tried to tell the printer that i installed new cartridges but no success. so i taped the cartridges and problem solved.but can there be any damage to the printer head? won't it get dry after trying to print with an empty cartridge(when i will be truly empty i mean).please help.thank you."To avoid damaging the printer, closely monitor your printouts and when you notice the colors are not right, stop printing whatever job you have spooled and print a test page. Here's how: Go to and scroll about halfway down the page till you get the red, green, blue, cyan, magenta and yellow squares onscreen. Now hit the "Print Screen" key, open "Paint" or any graphics application of your choice, paste the image into a new document and save it. Print that document and you will be able to tell which of the color cartridges is empty. Knowing if the black one is empty is somewhat trickier because the printer can mix the other colors to produce a brownish black. To get around this issue, periodically print documents using the "black only" setting. If the document does not print or looks very faint, replace the cartridge. I hope this doesn't sound too confusing! Thanks for the advice on the Brother 2140 printer. I put black tape in the right side hole of the toner and it works perfect for me. Thank you nshani. I installed mine all the way to the other direction after I refilled my initial cartridge....It worked fine like that for the last few months, but moved it now as shown in the photo. The print continues to be light in density (dark grey instead of black), it is darkest at 300dpi lightest at 1200 dpi. Any suggestions about that? Eldad What is weird is that I have 3 of the HL-2040 printers, and all have the flag @ 3 PM, even the Brother OEM, and all print well. No idea why you get gray instead of black - what is your system? OS? Have you changed any of the printer settings? I think that the printer set-up in Windows allows you to change some, no idea if a Mac allows you (have to check), no clue what Linux allows. חג חנוכה שמח Brett's solution works on DCP-9045CDN ! Well, seems like the flag is basically good for nothing, except perhaps to adjust the toner supply or density according to the amount of toner left in the cart. as explained someplace that I saw, but seems it is not doing that either. WinXP-PRO-SP3 here. I played with all the printer adjustments on the printer preferences dialog, but cannot get real black like when it was before I refilled it. The company (Laser Tek Services - very nice and good prices!) even sent me a replacement toner, but it was the same. They said they had no such problems before. There is a yellow "smear" down the middle of the page when I printg in color with the toner save mode off. I've cleaned the wires, cleaned the drum, changed the cartridge to a new one, and wrung my hands --- all to no avail. What do I do to get it to go away??? Thanks to whomever might be able to help me out on this. I've got a bunch of "good" stuff to get out here in the office and this just won't do!!! Marcia in Wabash, you seemed to have done everything recommended by the user manual. It's a long shot but the only other thing I can think of is to clean the scanner windows. I know where they are located only on the HL-4040CN. Is that the printer you have? Ok, folks, this is a long response but you will find it helpful. We are an experienced refiller, remanufacturer of toner and components and printer supplies for all factory OEM systems. In the case of the Brother 4040 / 4070 printers there is an issue with ALL of the refill toner on the aftermarket, including ours. Fact is, there are only a FEW companies in the world, if that producing the color toner for this printer. One of the reasons is that it works differently than most other toner. The toner for the Brother 4040/4070 is a positive charge toner (as opposed to negative. Most laser printer use negative. Without getting too crazy, it all has to do with what charge is used to ultimately attract the toner to the drum then onto the paper.OK, so having this background, it is difficult at best to duplicate the Brother 4040 / 4070 toner exactly and the aftermarket toners out there are close but not exact. With that, when you use a refill kit you must do 2 things. First, use up or get out as much of the original toner as possible. We use a toner vac called an Atrix but a good shop vac with a fine filter will do. Remove the plug, use an narrow tip tool on the vac be patient, rock the cartridge and get it as clean as possible inside. The problem is, because the aftermarket toners are just slightly different, the DO NOT MIX WELL with the original brother toner. Even if only 10\% of the original Brother toner is remaining and you fill it up with aftermarket toner, you WILL HAVE A PROBLEM in the form of leaks, streaks and a general MESS. We have 4 of these printers and have tried this hands on. Second, you must reset the flag gear to the full point. If you don't you will just end up with light ghosting in the background. The reason is, the position of the flag gear directly relates to how much voltage is being sent thru the cartridge. The easiest explanation is if the flag gear is at the near empty position and you do not reset it when you refill, the wrong voltage signal is sent thru the cartridge resulting in problems. If you do not know how to reset the flag gear, email me at and I can send you an instruction sheet. If you are just looking for great printer products a reasonable prices check me out at yourprinterink.com or email me at with your question. My name is Rich Hi all, I have a Brother HL-4040CDN. I print with mainly black toner, except for a tiny bit of color in the letterhead. When my color counter hit 2600, I got the annoying red light and message to replace M, C, & Y cartridges. Since I mainly use black toner, it is nowhere near time to replace these cartridges. I followed the directions in an above posting that tells how to find the hidden menus and I am now successfully printing again. However, I did see those infrared sensors inside the printer at each cartridges station, so I put black electrical tape over the cartridge holding unit where the light would shine through because I do think that when the toner really does start to get lower, those sensors will kick in a secondary control and give me another headache. Hope this helps. OK--- I have looked at my number of pages, and I am getting half what should print with the Brother 4070 cdw.I had discovered in desperation that if I took out a cartridge and gently shook it around, I could get more.... but, does anyone know this printer and is there a way to turn back gears or cover a window or electric eye so I get what they advertise out of the high yield TN 115 cartridges?darned expensive for what I am getting out of them!! OK--- I have looked at my number of pages, and I am getting half what should print with the Brother 4070 cdw.I had discovered in desperation that if I took out a cartridge and gently shook it around, I could get more.... but, does anyone know this printer and is there a way to turn back gears or cover a window or electric eye so I get what they advertise out of the high yield TN 115 cartridges?darned expensive for what I am getting out of them!! Edie1, there are SEVERAL posts in this thread with solutions for the 4070CDW. If you are using Firefox, just scroll to the top of this page and hit Ctrl+F. In the "Find:" textbox (just above the status bar) enter "4070" and keep clicking "Next" until you find your solution. Alternatively, print the thread and read it if you find it's too much to read on screen. Its a round clear window about the size of a penny on the right hand side of the cartridge near the black plastic fill plug I just replaced a TN530 with a TN560 and when a copy is made I get an exceptionally loud squeak/noise. Almost as if one of the gears is making a noise. Does anyone have any ideas what is causing this? Is it possibly a bad cartridge? Is the 560 cartridge new? What model printer is it? Which specific instructions worked for your 4070? There are several variations of similar directions posted. Thanks for the help! I have an HL4040cdn. After replacing all cartridges the 1st time with 115's, I got the red screen of death that all color toner carts were out of life not even 1 reem of paper later. Ticked is not even to bein upset. I tried the black tape over clear plastic trick, no fix. Then the reset using the Cancel then Reprint to reset the carts. That seemed to work. will know after more trys, but so far so good. I have a brother HL-4040CN with TN110 still in them. I used the tape trick with good success and then got the red screen of death "toner life end." I fooled around for several hours and found this and actually used the gear trick. Word to the wise though make sure you use the remanufactor manual as posted earlier. That

helps. The first time i just followed the instructions and it didn't work. I used the pictures to set the flag gear properly and it worked. i have a Brother MFC-8440... any idea what i can do? the toner is atleast 1/4 full...thanks a lot!!! I have an HL-4040CDN. I replaced black cartridge after too few copies, but didn't throw the old one away, so I will re-use. After 1594 color copies and 1734 mono, printer came up and said that all color cartridges needed replacing. I saw these threads and opened front cover: placed black tape on both side of the slide-out track where the machine looks through to the cartridge. (seemed an easier place to put the tape than on individual cart.) reset all the cartridges by holding down reprint and cancel simultaneously. The list of items is confusing to me, but I re-set them all. There are 2 settings for each color and black, it seems Hope that's not a big problem. Closed the front cover and the printer works again. I will try to remember to re-post again when the cartridges actually run out or guality degrades. MFC-7840WWe are getting the 'toner life end' error message. Replacing with identical non-OEM TN-360 cartridge does not remove the message. Covering the low toner sensor holes makes no difference. How do you do a software reset of the error for the 7840?Help me, Obi-Wan Kenobi, you're my only hope. Regarding the HL-4040CN and similar models, one way to get (significantly?) more prints per cartridge that probably most of us overlook is to simply turn on the Toner Save mode. Think about it: Do you REALLY need to use the standard setting for most of your print jobs? Here's how to turn the Toner Save Mode on globally in Windows XP: Start -> Printers and Faxes -> Right-click "Brother HL-4040CN series" and then click "Printing Preferences..." in the context menu -> Advanced tab -> Immediately below the Advanced label are five buttons with the first one (Print Quality) depressed by default. Click the last one (Device Options) -> Under "Printer Function", select "Toner Save Mode" and on the right select "On" -> Close the Printers and Faxes window and you're done.Now, Toner Save Mode will be on by default for all programs on your computer. (Please note that Microsoft Office documents previously printed on your computer may have saved their former print settings and may override the global Toner Save setting.) The tape trick worked for me too! Brother HL-2140! If you use standard paper punch with any thick paper, rubber, cork it fits the hole perfectly. I think the first letter stands for the color, the tnr stands for toner and s stands for standard or h for high yield. But there are others here who know a lot more about this than I do. I do almost everything by trial and error... This is a long post, but read it all. I am a printer tech. To reset the toners you need to open the front cover then hold "cancel" & "reset" together and the toner reset selections will pop up. Each color has 2 choices, the "s" for TN110 cartridges and the "h" for TN115 cartridge you have you can just reset the "s" and "h" for the troubled color. If you have used the tape trick, at some point a cartridge may start to print light before the printer shuts it down so be aware of that and watch your print quality. To reset the components like the laser unit, belt, drums etc you need to open the printer cover again. Press "go" and the +/up button and the reset menu for each component will appear. Now press the +/up button to scroll to the component you want to reset. Once you are at the correct component, press the "OK" button and the reset is done. Close the cover and let the printer recycle. If you choose to refill your own cartridges, you can save big money. I am a tech and our site at yourprinterink.com has just about anything you need. You may start to get backgrounding in which case you will need to know how, email me and I can send you a pdf 1 page instruction sheet. In the case of the Brother 4040 / 4070 printers there is an issue with ALL of the refill toner on the aftermarket. Fact is, there are only a FEW companies in the world, if that producing the color toner for this printer and there is a great deal of JUNK toner on the market especially on ebay. One of the reasons is that it works differently than most other toner. The toner for the Brother 4040/4070 is a positive charge toner (as opposed to negative). Most laser printer use negative. Without getting too crazy, it all has to do with what charge is used to ultimately attract the toner to the drum then onto the paper.OK, so having this background, it is difficult at best to duplicate the Brother 4040 / 4070 toner exactly and the aftermarket toners out there are close but not exact. With that, when you use a refill kit you must do 2 things. First, use up or get out as much of the original toner as possible. We use a toner vac called an Atrix but a good shop vac with a fine filter will do. Remove the plug, use an narrow tip tool on the vac be patient, rock the cartridge and get it as clean as possible inside. The problem is, because the aftermarket toners are just slightly different, the DO NOT MIX WELL with the original brother toner. Even if only 10\% of the original Brother toner is remaining and you fill it up with aftermarket toner, you WILL HAVE A PROBLEM in the form of leaks, streaks and a general MESS. We have 4 of these printers and have tried this hands on. Second, you must reset the flag gear to the full point. If you don't you will just end up with light ghosting in the background. The reason is, the position of the flag gear directly relates to how much voltage is being sent thru the cartridge. The easiest explanation is if the flag gear is at the near empty position and you do not reset it when you refill, the wrong voltage signal is sent thru the cartridge resulting in problems. If you do not know how to reset the flag gear, email me at and I can send you an instruction sheet. If you are just looking for great printer products a reasonable prices check me out at yourprinterink.com or email me at with your question. My name is Rich Thanks very much for your learned input, Rich. I'm certain your post will be invaluable to many experiencing problems with their printers.I've never used refills for my HL-4040CN but your information regarding which charge the toner should have is definitely worth bearing in mind. Cheers :-) Cannot fix the problem here with my HL-2140 printing light (grey instead of black). I did not try a new cartridge, just refilled again the one I have. It started printing in mind. Cheers :-) Cannot fix the problem here with my HL-2140 printing light (grey instead of black). I did not try a new cartridge, just refilled again the one I have. It started printing in mind. Cheers :-) Cannot fix the problem here with my HL-2140 printing light (grey instead of black). grey after I refilled it and installed the flag gears on it, it is the initial cartridge that came with the printer. Tried everything I could think of, tried all the choices in 'Preferences', and a few suggestions from this great site, but still printing grey. Anybody here that actually experienced this problem and solved it?Thanks for any help,Eldad I just got a brother HL 5340 d Printer and i tried to cover the catridge holes - but no luck... can some one advice me - help me to get my machine up and running...Cheers I have a DCP-7020. I've taped over the sensors and this has worked in the past, but now it's giving me the 'toner life at an end' message. Is there a way to re-set the printer, using the buttons, and override this message? I would rather try this before taking apart the toner cartridge. This forum has instructions for re-setting other models, but they don't work for the DCP-7020. Does anybody know the override sequence for this particular printer? Thanks. Good findH- is for high yield toner cartridge - ex 110 hy all, just witness a new problem with my 130 dcp.all the red color are printed yellow! checked the cartridge but the color there is red. but i noticed that i haven't removed the back tape from it so the red one didn't worked at all. so i removed the back tape and now it should work write?wrong, i entered the MS PAINT and made a round red square and printed a yellow one!please help. Are you sure that even though the toner cartridge is red (magenta)that the toner INSIDE is the correct color. You either have the magenta and yellow switched or you have a magenta cartridge with yellow toner in it. Chenrp, it sounds like your magenta cartridge is either empty or its ink has hardened. Another possibility is that that cartridge's nozzle has become clogged (check your user manual to see how to clear it). To achieve a red output, the printer must mix ink from the magenta and vellow cartridges. The red square coming out vellow suggests to me that magenta is not being printed, i don't know what the printer did at night but all is fine now!thx all! Thanks a lot! Works also for my HL2030!NICEEE HL 2030toner light won't go out - so far I have followed these solutions: Try this. Take the toner cartridge out of the drum it sits in. Look on the left side. You'll see a half circled groove with a tab inside it. If the tab is turned to the right(3 o'clock position) then you'll have to switch it to the left(10 o'clock position). This happens when you try to change the cartridge while the printer is ON. This is the most common solution to this problem on the 2030 the old Brother cartridge does not have this "tab" but the replacement (non-Brother) cartridge does but it is impossible to move it to the 10 o'clock position.have tried covering both "eyes" with electrical tape - no luckdid a factory reset (the 6 times hit on the go button) - no luckswitched off - pulled out plug and cartridge and waited 30 seconds a dozen times - no luckPulled out cartridge when printer was on - held go button until they all lit up, replaced cartridge and closed front - no luck Thanks for all the help!! The reset and tape ideas worked for my black cartridge (got many hundreds of more prints), but not for my color. What finally did it was to put in a new cartridge and then take out that new one and put the old one back in. Thanks, It worked with my MFC-9440CN Cant find hole to cover on my printer where is it? Pull out any toner cartridge and hold it by the handle. Look on the right side of the cartridge. You will see a label that is actually covering the FILL plug. Now look just below the fill plug and to the left and yoy will see a CLEAR PLASTIC window. It is round and that is what needs to be covered. If you are ever interested in supplies for this machine contact me at or check out our supplies site at www.yourprinterink.com. Let me know how you make out Black tape over sensor works on my HL-3070CW. Wish I'd found this earlier before buying new cartridge and having marathon argument with Brother 'Customer Service' about why it ran out after only 282 pages with average coverage of 1.46\% read all about it at My brother HL-3040CN is not responding to the black electrical tape trick. Is there anything else I could try in order to override the low toner messages? I have searched for a individual cartridge reset menu with no luck as well. I have a Brother MFC9840CDW. We managed to get the toner collection box emptied, but the printer periodically tells me to replace the part. How do I reset the printer? Thanks. the model is the tn-210 ... I also tried updating the printer firmware but that did not help either. It worked for MFC-240 as well. Thanks! Excellent.I bought a hl2140 recently with a starter pack and the toner low has been going the last few days. Today it wouldn't let me print at all. I went to office max and they wanted stupid money even though the print guality is fine for what i need.so i did a little google and you guys came up - you're stars! I pulled the cartridge on each side and put some brown parcel tape over them.put the cartridge back in and fine, printing happily and still good guality.thanks!!! Got me out of a tight spot on a Sunday - Very cool thank you hmm I've been using the resetting gear method on my TN-110/115 cartridges. I've been coming across situations where I would reset it and then it gives me the end of life message after like a few pages. Sometimes it would and sometimes it wouldn't, I'm not really sure whats causing it to work sometimes and not work sometimes. My machine is a MFC9440cn btw. Are you resetting the "flag gear"? Send me an email address and I will email you a pdf that we supply to our customers. yea I am, I have the pdf thanks. I am gonna try the cover window method in addition to reseting the gear, its almost like the machine is forcefully un-resetting my reset lol. 1 - Open cover2 - Press and hold Cancel then press Go while still holding then release both3 - Select each toner in turn eq-K Toner STD and press OK then OK to accept. Do this for each cartridge.4 - Press Cancel and close cover5 - Printer will restart then show Ready6 - Access via web interface and all your toners will show full or nearly full again. It also works on the Brother MFC-9440CNThanks Glad you had success!Accidentally turned-off the "notify me if someone responds" feature on that thread and could not figure out how to get it back on. (sorry)Was on here today doing the same thing for my girly's newer MFC 7340. Had almost the exact same experience. The other posters got us pointed in the right direction... first couple solutions did not work... (tape over sensors, chaotic mashing of random buttons, etc.) but we kept reading and trying new suggestions and finally... the grail was grasped! Fight the man! Brother ... is anything but!!! Thank you. I finaly got my Brother MFC9840CDW reset. I also empty the waste bin by unscrewing the clear window and vaccum the container dry and all sensors. Hi, To sum up, only thing I could find to reset toners so far is to:(note that taping over the clear sensor window didn't work)>>> swap in new toners, print something (1 page just to be sure it worked) then SWAP OLD TONER CARTS back in. This seemed to let me keep printing just fine, printer never caught on (1000+ more prints since then). I just put the new toner cartridges back in the boxes and they are on the shelf for when I really do need them. This may have been all that worked since up to now I couldn't find the toner reset menu in the printer menus itself. I think it's possible taping the cartridges COMBINED with using the toner reset menu will work without swapping in new cartridges at all. I haven't tried this yet, but next time it stops printing, I will report back on the issue. Tonight I found the TONER RESET MENU after much trial and error and button pushing: Toner Reset Menu for Brother HL3070:1. Open Cover where you access toner cartridges 2. Press CANCEL & SECURE PRINT buttons at one time and you'll see the toner menus on screen3. Press + or - to navigate through to the toners you need to reset. Note that each toner has 2 entries here, and I'm not sure why. Would love to hear what each one does, if anyone knows.4. I'm guessing that the OK button will be the actual reset of the toners, if not then the go button would be I guess, but I couldn't confirm this, since my toners didn't currently need reset, also found the reset menu for the durable parts counters; 1. Open cover where you access toners?, Press GO and + button at once, you'll see menu come up displaying reset counters for drum, fuser, etc. Hope this helps someone else. I am so frustrated that we are all being forced to replace toner cartridges that are, in many cases, still mostly full! It's wrong, and forums like this one are important.:) Tammy thanks a ton for the info saved me \$50 for now Awesome! I taped over the eye and saved myself a major stress attack. MFC-7340 just purchased a week ago and the toner was new so wtf? The ink is fine. It's funny how the Brother website simply avoids the subject in the FAQ thread by blaming the problem on the consumer. I have an HL-2170w.Where is the eye located on the printer and the cartridge? Is there a photo or demo video showing where it is located? some example pictures of what a toner sensor looks like. I just did this for a Brother 2140 and it works great! Be sure to remove the toner cartridge from the drum assembly, cover the senser with black electrical tape, then put it all back in the printer. EXCELLENT advice! It's bloody extortionate for them to not allow you to print when it's "out of toner". This trick has revived my faith in technology. Although I still have a vearning to take a baseball bat to my HL-2150n (Office Space style). I prob won't buy another brother printer, they are as shoddy as the typewriters (yes, I had one). Duct tape works, or seems to as well as electric tape. It's all I had in my classroom, it's a new toner drum. Tech support said the printer needs replacement and is it under warantee still? 1year, I've had it 15 months under a not heavy duty workload. My old Xerox P-8E was approaching 100,000 pages when it died, we had 25 users and it lasted 4 years.... I miss "old and reliable" over the new and improved *sigh* I prob won't buy another brother printer, they are as shoddy as the typewriters (yes, I had one). Duct tape works, or seems to as well as electric tape. It's all I had in my classroom, it's a new toner drum. Tech support said the printer needs replacement and is it under warantee still? 1year, I've had it 15 months under a not heavy duty workload. My old Xerox P-8E was approaching 100,000 pages when it died, we had 25 users and it lasted 4 years.... I miss "old and reliable" over the new and improved *sigh* Uh, this is what I was thanking Ned Levine (10/30/08 12:42 PM) for. I hit reply so I thought it would quote or something. Sorryl have a Brother MFC 9840CDW. I first got the Toner Low and then the Toner Life End message. After reading the various responses on this blog, I did the following to re-set the printer: 1. Turn on the printer: 2. Push the button on the front of the printer to open the cartridge door. Don't remove the cartridges. 3. Push the Clear/Back button to bring up a reset menu. There are 8 different toner functions (for simplicity, two B's, two C's, two M's, and two Y's). 4. For each of these eight functions in turn, push the O.K. button and then push it again to indicate 'Reset'. After a few seconds, it will say 'Accepted' and will then display a message that the cover is open.5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 for each of the 8 toner functions.6. When finished, close the door and the status bar will be reset to normal with no error message. Thanks for the info. I have an HL-4040CDN and have been using the "reset the gear" method on TN-110 cartridges, and it has worked fine so far. Today I was resetting it and I wondered what would happen if I just left the gray gear and the spring out entirely. As an experiment I left it out and the print quality seems fine to me.Will this keep me from getting the out of toner message until the cartridge is actually depleted, or will it likely cause me some problem down the road? Has anybody tried this? Thanks again! BrettInSoCal: So what exactly fixed your MFC 7430? Taping the sensor is not working for me? BrettInSoCal: So what exactly fixed the problem for your MFC 7430, taping sensor isn't working for me. thanks, Blue masking tape on RH window works just fine on a HL-2170W with starter cartridge. Looking at it briefly, it appears toner low signal on this unit is triggered by light passing through the unit. I have a Brother MFC-9840CDW that gets an Cooling Down (Error 25) message about every 5 pages. The machine stops, cools down, and then runs off another 5/6 pages, and then repeats this. The Service Manual states that either the unit is overheating or the temperature at both ends of fuser roller is unequal. The exhaust fans are all running correctly. The temperature at the fuser exhaust fan is 120F. Is this too high? I would not think so, but I don't have a specification. Anyone know for sure? I called Brother's technical "support" and was told that my paper was out-of-specfication. We use Hammermill Copy Plus, 20lb. The recommended paper is Xerox 20lb or Hammermill 24lb. So you could argue that our Hammermill 20lb is "out of spec," but I don't really by this argument. However, I did change the print setup from "Plain Paper" to "Thin Paper" and we ARE getting a lot fewer Cooling Down errors. Questions: 1) What do y'all think about this? 2) Is it possible that the fuser is "dirty" and needs to be cleaned? If so, any suggestions on the correct procedure? 3) Anyone else having this issue? I have not seen much on the web about this.TBNode InformationModel Name Brother MFC-9840CDWMFC Firmware Version GMFC Sub Firmware Version 1.10Engine Firmware Version 1.19Memory Size 128 MbytesDevice StatusPage Counter 34089 Color 13458 B&W 20631Image Count Total 69440 Cyan 12446 Magenta 11790 Yellow 12412 Black 32792Drum Count 1606Remaining LifeDrum Unit* 15394 pages (\% of Life Remaining) (92.00\%)Belt Unit 45532 pages (\% of Life Remaining) (92.00\%)Fuser Unit 45911 pages (\% of Life Remaining) (66.00\%)Paper Feeding Kit MP 49963 pages (\% of Life Remaining) (100.00\%)Paper Feeding Kit 1 86942 pages (\% of Life Remaining) (88.00\%)Paper Feeding Kit 2 90265 pages (\% of Life Remaining) (92.00\%)Total Pages PrintedFax/List 23 pages Color 0 B&W 23Copy 452 pages Color 242 B&W 210Print 33614 pages Color 13216 B&W 20398Total Pages ScannedADF(SX)** 408 pagesADF(DX)** 14 pagesFlatbed 365 pagesReplace CountDrum Unit 2Belt Unit 1Fuser Unit 0Laser Unit 0Paper Feeding Kit MP 0Paper Feeding Kit 1 0Paper Feeding Kit 2 OWaste Toner Box OCyan (C) Toner 4Magenta (M) Toner 4Yellow (Y) Toner 4Black (K) Toner 8Total Paper Jams 11Jam MP Tray 1 Jam Tray 2 OJam Inside 1Jam Rear 1Jam Duplex 4Total Paper Jams (ADF SX)** 0Total Paper Jams (ADF DX)** 0*Based on A4/Letter printing**Automatic Document Feeder Can't get low toner override no matter what I try and I keep getting an error message to clean the "corona" wire which I have done numerous times but keep getting the message. Print guality is fine so how can I correct one or both of these problems? Hi, did you ever figure out about the override? I tried the tape thing on my Brother 2140 but did not work as well. Thanks much!Bo help please. i've got a brother MFC-5460CN.has been saying ink needs changing, I almost never print with colour. I can see cartridges are half full. I've been reading posts & have stuck black electrical tape over the two lighter plastic doughnut shaped bits at top &bottom of back(the bit that'plugs in') & also over the ridged bit to the side/back & over the labels on the sides near the front where I can see a round depression. printer says "no ink cartridge remove cover then reinstall... ' i've tried this many times over. can anyone help me? Worked great! Thanks 2170 starter cartridge: tape over hole appears to work. My "starter" cartridge lasted about 30 pages. I was pissed. Thanks for the help I have MFC 5490CN, i tried all solution but it don't work ! Any idea? Looking for low toner fix for a brother MFC 9440CN. Thanks! Fixed the problem for a HL-2170W. The printer was brand new and I got this error on the 3rd day of ownership. Maybe I had printed 30 pages when it started giving me the error. Black tape cured it. Thanks again. I stumbled across this thread while seaching for something else and I am amazed at the number of posts. Because consumables represent such a HUGE portion of the revenue stream, you certainly wouldn't expect manufacturers to have to resort to tactics such as these.Interestingly, this is not new, nor is it isolated to the printer industry. Does anyone here recognize the name Gillette?That company made billions by literally giving away razors and then simply sitting quietly while the money rolled in from the sale of replacement blades.Would anyone care to guess what class of products represents the largest revenue stream for that old stand-by company, HP? Might it be computers? Possibly scientific / medical equipment?Nope, none of these. Printer consumables is the correct answer. I am pleased to know that this Retailer, I agree with everything you said except for the "so many different people have been able to save a FEW bucks" part because by my rough estimation it's probably more like hundreds or even thousands of dollars for each person that has been following these tips while doing lots of printing over the last few years. I have a MFC-7840w, using a TN-2150. I also kept getting the "Life End" message on my computer and printer. I tried the *00 thing...didn't work, I even tried the sharpie to darken the windows on the toner cartridge, but that didn't make the message go away I then cut two pieces of the sticky part of a post-it note and covered both sensors in the PRINTER, and now it seems to work. I guess the sharpie to darken the windows didn't cover it enough. Hope this helps How do I reset the drum on my MCF7840 so I don't have to buy a new one? i did the reset toner menue 3 times in the past year and my mfc-9840cdw always printed like a charm.now it insists on replacing the black toner! even reseting the gear didn't help!can something done be wrong when reseting the gear? I reset it and after printing about 4 pages (perfect letters no fading) the replace-toner-nomoreprinting message reappears and the gear is in empty-toner position again... :-(As far as I know there is no intelligence in the toner cartridge, so the printer should not be able to remember a used toner, or am I wrong?any help is welcomeurs Dear Anonymous. Great note... and you are, of course, welcome! Now if I can just find one of these sites for the brakes on my Lexus! If you find such enlightenment in the manual, do indeed let us all know... but don't hold your breath! As evidenced, you are not the only one to have been driven into the night in such fits of outrage... many have visited here and none have had news of any such documentation to report. Your painful reminder that these Cossacks have the nerve to try to get you to replace all three separate cartridges simultaneously is even that much more galling! [In fact, don't such manufacturers regularly extol the virtue of such delineation as a significant cost saving feature?!?!]OK, you've wound me up and I must calm down... *breathes... stares at candle flame*I'll leave you with this... it has now almost been two years since my first posting here and its antecedent bogus notification from my otherwise beloved machine. I run two business from a home office environment and print regularly. The next time I replace ANY of my [4] cartridges... will be the FIRST!!! *is wound-up again*Good luck! ...and keep fighting! BROTHER MFC-7840W TONER LIFE ENDSorry guys, following all the tips here and it's not working on my Brother MFC7840W!! Tried taping both sides of the sensor holes on the cartridge itself, on the cartridge holder, and also inside the printer (using electrical tape). Also tried sticking a punched-out cardboard circle into the sensor holes in the printer itself (both sides). Tried doing this with printer on, with printer off, etc. Also with cover open, pushing clear back and selecting replace drum (1) -- that didn't work either!!Is this the latest cheat-proof model? I've read other posts on here saying they've fixed a MFC-7840W. What am I doing wrong?Thanks UNBELIEVABLE!!!!!!You don't know how many times I have replaced the toner on my printer!!!!!You made my day....week.....month!!!!!! Hi ErichP, Thanks for the helpful missive. Unfortunately, no success :(Mine is a B/W laser, so there are no reset toner options, as you described. only replace drum, that's it. I think the reset toner action is completely mechanical (take out cartridge, put in a new one) and seeing as my efforts to cover the sensors have completely failed, either there is one other sensor I'm not covering (and I've tried all of them that I can find), or they've dealt with this workaround in this release of the model. Anyone else out there with particular experience overriding the toner end life on a Brother MFC-7840W?? I would like to thank "waterboss" who posted on 3/24/08. His solution worked for me. I also have a 7820N and taping the holes did not work for me. I opened the door, pressed options, pushed start, then 10. The screen said "accepted". I closed the cover and voila, there she was, all ready to go. Thanks, again. Jose Hi Boone. Try solution posted by Brett on 6/29/08. Hope it works. Jose its work for me god helps every one I did this too! found the menu selection that displays M-nnn, C-mm, K-nnn etc. (nnn some number system related to that cartrige, answer Y, then Y to OK? for each cartridge. It worked and the user was able to print again. Tanks to all of you and your great tips I am happy to return my very EMPTY toner cartridge to Brother (r) using their prepaid box. I have printed hundreds of B/W copy after re-setting "out of toner" message. Please do the same... do not send your half full cartridge back to the manufacturer. Think green ;) 5250DN - when we first tried the tape-over it didn't work. I think this is because we didn't use black tape but just masking tape. Using blacked out electrical tape and now it works. Brother - if you're reading these posts - which you ought to - I want to say in the strongest possible terms that it is NOT good customer service, nor is it good for your corporation reputation, to engage in what amounts to corporate swindling. You havn't got an ethical leg to stand on, unless you can explain and prove that it damages the life of printers to go past this Brother-decided point in tonercartridge use when printing guality is not demonstrably affected. In which case its not a low-toner problem but a design issue which customers are mislead to believe is a low-toner issue. Not only is it irresponsible in environmental terms (and NO corporation can NOT care about that these days) but (as others have pointed out) Brother is highly presumptuous in allocating (forcefully) the decision to change toner to suit your own interest. It should be bleedin' obvious that these days few customers appreciate having their rightful choices taken away from them. So, if it as simple as Brother scheming to make more money off unwitting customers by setting false 'low toner' end points, then as far as I'm concerned Brother ought to be prosecuted for systematic swindling. Works great on a HL-2170W, Many thanks we were in a bind at a remote location. The printer gave no warning the light came on and it stopped printing! This is common for alot of printers - the hp colors have a setting to disregard the ink status and typically give you a 100 more prints Pay it forward... Brett's suggestion worked on my 9320 as well. Unfortunately, I had already replaced the three color toner cartridges but have kept them for reuse. Now the black cartridge started giving me "Toner Low" messages (after printing less than 300 copies!) and I just used the reset. Many many thanks. I, too, would like to know the difference between STD and STR. I set mine to STD but not sure that's what I should have used. I set both STR and STD on each cartridge, using Brett's process for his unit. I am still on the original black cartridge (another 1000 copies I believe) and I take it out shake it when it starts printing light, and then it keeps on printing. Eventually, I will use up a black toner cartridge. :-) I haven't seen the LOW toner message since doing the remedy. It worked for HL 2170W as well. Thanks for the tip! Thanks! That worked great! Thanks Jose, Brett in Socal for the instruction on my MFC-9440CN and everyone that is involved. It works!!! Unfortunately, I have purchased the toner refill so I open up the holds(all colors) and top it off on all colors. Let see how long this will last. I will update you all, once it's out again.. Great community by helping us all.. Thanks again!!! Boone I have an MFC 8680 DN. The toner cartridge is a TN-650 High Yield cartridge. Been working great and loving it, till now. So glad to find a solution! I resolved both my toner cartridge and drum issues! Thank God for this post! Will save me hundreds of (or more) dollars a year!I experienced the same toner cartridge issues, and I could feel the toner was at least half full still when I shook it. First, tried the magic marker and scotch tape, then masking tape. Also tried most everything else posted here. Nothing worked, even doing both sides. Then, searched through the house and found heavy duty electrical tape Did this on the right side only, and it's working great! Have printed several pages PERFECTLY!Directions for toner cartridge is the right side of the cartridge when you place the cartridge in front of you the word "Brother" is right side up. The sensor or eye is just behind the blue lever, just behind the white tape that says removing it will void the warranty. It looks like a little glass circle about half the size of a dime, or smaller. Be sure the tape covers it completely, as the first time I tried it, it wasn't quite covered (it's hard to slide the piece of tape down behind the outer plastic part to actually cover the eye, as the tape is very sticky), and it didn't work. And you have to actually cover the "eye", not just put tape over the outer black casing. Second time I tried it, it worked like a charm! definitely suggest gently shaking the cartridge from side to side though, just kind of tossing it right and left in a gentle wave motion, as this helps distribute the remaining for a longer period of time (used to do this with older machines for months when they would indicate toner needed replacing. Now apparently, they've got sensors to try to MAKE you do it, which totally sucks, as it's just ripping you off when there's plenty of toner left! Someone should file a class action suit!)Directions for drum life: As for the drum issue, I noticed while I was attempting to resolve the toner issue that my drum life said it was only 60\%! Which seems ridiculous. I do a lot of printing, but just got the machine a few months ago! So, to reset the drum life to 100\%, with the Cover Open (the one you open to replace the cartridge), hit "Clear/Back". It will ask you if you want to replace the drum. Choose 1 or OK for yes. It will indicate accepted. This will reset your drum life to 100\% (you can check this under the Menu, Machine Info, Parts Life menu.) Happy with the machine other than this issue. Hope this helps others! Following tip may help. Solution #5posted on Jan 29, 2008SwiftLifeSwiftLifeRank: Apprentice Computers & Accessories ExpertRating: 92\%, 10 votesAfter reviewing this archive, and speaking with a service representative. I have posted a solution to better explain the toner and reset ability. Hey, just wanted to chime in that this worked on the HL2140 I just bought. It decided the starter cartridge was done after ELEVEN pages. Thanks to all of you for helping me to convince it otherwise. The little hole you're looking to tape over on this model is on the right side of the toner/drum assembly, right in the middle. Just received replace toner replace light after 700 pages on new 2170W. Called brother to no avail. Read this thread and covered sensor opening with tape. Worked like a charm. Told Brother that the printer settings pages showed 25 \% life left and that there probably was toner left and that the problem most likely is a faulty or poorly designed sensor. They said they would escalate call to level 2 and get back to me in 2 business hours. Am waiting for call back and I will inform them of the sensor issue and solution and see what they have to say. Stay Tuned I have a 2170w with the toner light on, tried new toner nothing, tried to cover up eves on boths sides still nothing(even did it on the old & new toner). Hoping for a answer we have a brother 4070cdw printer.we tried black tape over windows and printer wouldnt accknowledge a cartridge in place. Is there any other way to out smart our \$ sucking machine. Do not understand where or if there are gears to be reset? Hi, Please can someone inform me of how to reset the drum unit on Brother printer HL5270 DNMany Thanks everyone for your tips on fixing the "toner" light! Tape over the "eye" worked. VE Saw this blog and the great answers. FYI there is a site in Oz (with photos on where to put the tape on TN155 cartridges with the electrical tape over the hole. Really easy to follow. Hope this helps someone Here's another part of the answer: On the Left side of the new toner cartridge there is a little black lever that needs to be in the "upright and fully forward position." (You can move it back with a little tool like a letter opener.) Once it is upright, it bears against a sensor lever (white) inside the toner compartment. THAT makes the infernal "Toner Life End" message go away. . . . Happy days. Cheers! Ok all you HL-4070 CDW people...this this works for our little toner scamming maching: As stated up above for the toner life reset menu: 1 Open the front cover of the printer2 press and hold the cancel button 3 press the reprint button WHILE still holding cancelhere is the reset menu - go to the appropriate cartridge on- the menu and reset it and you're done!FYI... Pressing the "Go" button and the up arrow gives you the parts life reset menu (drum, laser, fuser, etc.) I'm guessing that the abbreviations are:B.TNR-S means black, toner, standard (next option is B.TNR-H which I assumed meant High (capacity) but if anyone knows different I'd like to know.Works like a charm...thanks! I have been having the same problem with my MFC-8890DW with the TN-650 toner cartridge. I just found the solution and wanted to share it. What you need to do is find instruction on how to refurbish the toner cartridge. When you find it use the part of the instructions that shows you how to reset the "reset gear" into it's original position. This link helped me tremendously! UPDATE: I have an MFC 8680 DN. The toner cartridge is a TN-650 High Yield cartridge. After reading these posts, heavy duty black electrical tape over the sensor hole on the cartridge worked for me about a month ago. So far, I've gotten another 1000+ pages out of that cartridge! However, I did notice that in the past week or so, the toner has started to "bleed" making the entire page look slightly grey and increasingly so as time progressed. The actual print still looks fine though. So, I finally had to put the new cartridge in for "formal" papers that need to look completely professional; however, still using the old one for printing "internal" documents, and it's still going strong! I just swap them out! Definite money saver!!! Hi, I have a brother HL-2070N, How do i get the toner light to stop blinking? I know that there is still some ink left over and i've tried covering the sensor. Maybe I'm doing it wrong? Thanks! In addition to all toner saving - and using methods, I buy machines when they go on sale to get toner and drums etc.... Pretty sad when you can buy a full printer for less than the replacement cartridges... I see TN110 machines now seem to have TN210 toner cartridges - are these the same? Well, I initially posted back in November 2009 with my successful method of re-setting my HL4040CDN OEM color cartridges. Today, I had to re-set my black cartridge and I'm glad to report that I have yielded following of my resets on my color cartridges - (OC=Original Count & NC=New Count)total page count: OC=3168/NC=2195, Cyan: OC=1864/NC=2646, Magenta: OC=1892/NC=2659, Yellow:OC=1917/NC=2722, Black: OC=3129/NC=TBD. Theses numbers are impressive - I have averaged about 800 extra color print pages after the display instructed me to replace them because they were "empty" - what a RIP! AND they're not even empty yet! Still going strong.... I will report back when I do actually begin to see signs of low toner. I hope this helps someone. Hi all. I greatly benefited from this forum a while ago. I am thankful for that. I would like to stop receiving e-mail notifications of new posts. Does anyone know how to remove my e-mail from such automatic notifications? Thanks, Jose Hi thereThe sensor cover can work but keep in mind that when the final toner message comes up onto your LCD screen, you should change it or you can damage the drum which can be costly, especially if you damage it when you have only used about 30\% of the drum. If a non (toner) powdered roller rubs onto the drum, it will damage it, so there is method in their madness. Great products - enjoy them. Brother HL-5370DW owner here. I am also grateful for this information. I am printing pages with ocassional photos, and the low-toner warnings started after about 600 pages. Covered the "eye" and got another 600 pages out of the initial toner cartridge. I can understand why the manufacturer would want to prevent running printers completely dry, as it damages the printer drum, and can be an expense to them, if a consumer can successfully persuade Brother that the damage should be covered under warranty. After covering the "eye" you must STOP immediately when you see the streaks and area graying occur. At that point, you are running dry and damaging your printer. I can also understand the greed of the toner people. Their livelihood is based on fear, since we as ignorant consumers cannot determine the actual toner level inside the physical cartridge. I reload my cartidges now, although do not assume your reloaded cartidges will last forever, since they have a drum as well, which will die after several reloads. After reloading my first few, and dumping toner all over my carpet in the process, I figured out how to do it, and plan on continuing to reload, buying new cartidges only when the older ones finally die. Happy printing. Brilliant. thank you very much. after 94 pages my brand new HL-2140 told me no more toner. Black tape worked like magic. And why did I have a brand new HL21-40? My old one needed a new drum - \$110. New printer at Office Depot - no mail in rebate - \$49 - including 1,000 page toner.DUUUUHHHHH??????Old one in basement waiting to be thrown out. I try to be Green but come on Brother, I had no option here.... just a note re old printer waiting to be thrown out. There is a hard drive in printers which has a record of all printed /photocopied material. If this gets into the wrong hands, identity theft is a cinch.don't throw out or trade in printers with this info on. J-CT, I understand what you are stating but couldn't Brother have come up with a better design so that the toner could be used until it is almost empty rather than having the cartridge report it's empty when there's a bunch of toner left?? "There is a hard drive in printers which has a record of all printed /photocopied material. If this gets into the wrong hands, identity theft is a cinch.don't throw out or trade in printers with this info on."There are very few home printers that have a hard drive installed. It's mostly copiers that have this problem. HtHPK I've had my brother HL-3070CW brother printer for less than a year. I replaced the black toner when the machiene message said that it was out even though it felt (by weight and shaking) like there was still a lot of toner in the cartridge. Now it states that the color cartidges are low. I have now used the black tape method. My question is- Is there any harm to the machine if I were to let the toner run completely out before replacing it?Shame on Brother for this. It is not very consumer friendly or environmently friendly. Also works for the MFC-7220 Thanks for the great tip that worked on my MFC-7220 as far as the 'low toner' stoppage goes but now it prints blank on the left side of the page and gradually darkens as you move to the right so that the right side is perfect. Any suggestions? Thanks, Phil Thanks for the great tip that worked on my MFC-7220 as far as the 'low toner' stoppage goes but now it prints blank on the left side of the page and gradually darkens as you move to the right so that the right side is perfect. Any suggestions?Thanks, PhilPS: I had tried an earlier suggestion of blocking both sides and after I removed the left side tape it printed fine. Duct tape worked on a HL-2170W too. You people are geniuses!! Worked on our 4050CDN which wanted ALL toners changed at the same

time... Thanks everyone involved. by the way, if anyone that have a MFC7840N, press Clear/Back, then *00. it workkkkk... Thanks everyone. The masking tape doesn't work but Option-start-10 works for me. My fax machine is MFC 7220. Cheers. @ngoatAbsolutely. As was stated earlier in the thread, (assuming your printer is like mine) the drum unit CAN be damaged if the bare, un-coated roller of a completely empty cartridge is allowed to rub on the drum. Therefore, once you have circumvented the "Toner End Life" situation with tape or whatever other means, it is essential that print quality be checked every few pages and canceled as soon as it is noticed that the color of the now truly empty cartridge is fading. For instance, if you are printing several sheets of a picture of a big green ball and you notice that its color is suddenly changing from green to blue, that means the yellow cartridge is becoming empty because green is a combination of blue (actually cyan, in this case) and yellow. Cancel the print job immediately and replace the yellow cartridge with a fresh one. (Remember, these printers and their replacement parts are guite expensive! Better safe than sorry.) HL2170W-took the drum & cartridge assembly out; popped out the cartridge, put black tape more or less alongside the factory sticker with a disclaimer (non-gear side), and PRESTO! there toner. My guess is that I had printed less than 100-200 pages so far. My Brother MFC-490CW printer is out of color ink but i only want to print black. How do i trick my printer into thinking there is color ink still there? @ Interesting you should state that because just recently I discovered that my HL-4040CN prints in black only if one or more of the color cartridges is empty. All printers ought to work like that. Unfortunately, I'm unfamiliar with the MFC-490CW. Open a new thread for this issue and see what responses you get. You can't, This procedure worked for me ... but only if I pressed the "OK" button twice after each "n.TNR.m" prompt. Only if I pressed those OKs would the "Accepted" prompt appear. I'd gotten this "end of life" message after many months of great operation ... but only a very few prints made using the color ink. -- Mike in San Jose Sorry ... the procedure I referred to in my last message was posted by Anonymous on 2/4/09 at 5:18 PM-- Mike in San Jose You people rock.....big time! Thanks so much! First - thanks!. Second, After the black tape and sharpie didn't work, I discovered a manual on how to rebuild the toner cartridge for the HL2170w. You can find it the panel at this site: I've been using the original one and finally couldn't get it to work until after reading the manual - I discovered there is no reset gear in the original cartridge (I think I read that somewhere in this blog, as well. HOWEVER, what I did realize is that there is a spring-loaded tab inside the printer that releases when the gear is there and indicating empty toner. I took a piece of tape and blocked the finger tab from popping out (to see if the gear is triggered). WORKS! (although, I still get a yellow check supply level message. Ok, I love the idea of saving money....How do I override the low ink warning on my Brother? And/or how do I cover the sensors? Are the sensors on the actual printer or do I cover something on the actual cartridge? For MFC 7420, the tape over the holes did not work. Still low toner, and I couldn't even scan to email. There are 3 screws on the left of the cartridge, undo them and carefully remove, making sure the white lever + its half gear (which will not move back) doesn't fall out. Now move halfway back and then reaffix with screws. Voila, normal service resumed and low toner light gone. Once you re-insert the lever is moved forward again, time will tell how many more pages I get. Make sure when using tape or whatever to cover the holes on the cartridges, that absolutely NO light can get through. I wasted lots of time (several days of frustration, actually) and effort trying to figure out why that trick wasn't working on a particular cartridge when it had worked like a charm on other cartridges before. Carefully examine your cartridge after applying tape. Hold it up to a bright light source while looking through the uncovered window. Can you see light coming through? There should be none. Be careful not to tilt the cartridge too much when performing this test. If you do, toner will obscure the near window and you may be fooled into thinking that the tape has been properly applied to the opposite window. My Brother 2040 laser printer just guit printing, but the GO green light is on and not blinking. How do I get the thing to print again? Is this related to the "low toner" thing? I replaced the toner cartridge about 3 weeks ago and have barely used the thing. Appreciate any help......I'm not all that savvy to this thing, but I'll give it the old college try if anyone can help. My 2170W was showing the orange light no toner signal. Thanks to all who wrote here with the tips to block the sensor holes. works like a charm. The print is clear and crisp. so there must be plenty toner left. I was sure i did not print 2600 pages on this cartridge. dalitec Hi all, Have a new MFC 9320 CW...followed your instructions to override toner warnings...worked great...EXCEPT, now I get a black line 1/4 inch wide down far right side of each paper!!!!Have checked to be sure the cleaning wire tab is in home position...all is well there. HELP!!!!! I have been using the tape over the sensor trick for about one year with no problems. Out of the blue my brother 2140 printer stops printing. Then I get a error message on my computer (which has never happened before) that the toner needed to be replaced. I tried putting in a used toner from my other 2140 printer (which was printing fine) but that did not work either. Is any one else having this problem. The tape works but...is this a starter cartridge that came with the printer? If it is, you need to add a flag gear. If you already have the flag gear installed, it needs to be reset. Email me for a pdf instruction sheet If this thread illustrates nothing else (and it does!), it shows the level of frustration and anger of those who are held ransom to their printers by manufacturers who see the inks as the real money makers. Give that I am old, ugly and damned cynical, I refused to be dictated to. Even through somewhat of a novice;-I went looking for a fightback! Here it is!!Other research has turned up the fact that Epson was sued over this in the US. I believe they lost the case..Research in the UK has discovered that ml for ml, printer ink is more expensive than Dom Perignon For novice Brother DCPC users: (though I know there are a couple of posts above): nothing works except BLACK electrical tape (I've tried). I didn't even know what this was!, but got some yesterday. Y has been showing empty-it has liquid in it. I checked champagne! levels: all showing full ex Y. I remove Y, then simply replace it.... M is now showing 'near empty'! It was full a minute before, NOTHING was printed! (In fact I have allowed this damned thing to show off its red warning for nearly two months because as you all know it would not print!). Novices: for the 150C just remove the ink, and put black tape over what looks like a mini tape (like you can see in a cassette tape). Cover this with your Etape, with it sticking down to each side about 1". Re-insert. It will resist a bit-but they DO click in. Just go gently. Now run a test. I haven't a clue, so I ran the Google face page because of its colours! All showing well. Fading colour ONLY is when you need to buy more ink. Boy am I pissed. I bought a Brother MFC-9320CW for printing programs for our bull riding. Now, I am constantly buying or refilling cartridges. (big mess and big expense). I only get approx. 200 pages from a color cartridge. After reading the posts, I am unable to find the 'eye' on my cartridges. Can anyone help me?Thanks, A practically brand new, low use toner cartridge that was full (heavy and could hear full toner) kept saying "out." Big Brother technical line was absolutely no help because the purchase date was just past 90 days, so they said "you have to buy a new one." YOUR ADVICE WORKED GREAT! And it works on the 4070CDW as well, just note that that cartridge has two windows to blacken with a sharpie, one on each end, on this model. Also note: the software in the printer "remembers" a cartrigdge, but you can defeat this feature by performing a factory reset in the printer's LCD screen. BEWARE: Do this as a last resort if you are using the internal wireless feature of this printer and spent a lot of time setting that up as you may have to do that again. Factory reset did not affect my wireless connection because I connect to wireless Apple Express>ethernet cable>printer. I would imagine that a Factory reset on a printer cabled to any brand of wireless hub should be ok as well. Hope this helps and thanks again. The fix at the end of this e-mail posted by Rex Anderson worked great for me without any electrical tape. (Thanks Rex!)By the way, on the 3040, you can print out your ink levels by hitting OK twice, print settings, and go. (Of course, you have to override your settings as listed below before you can do any printing.) According to this printout. I have approximately 95\% in all my color cartridges, and the printer was telling me I had to replace all three for a cost of over \$200. Brother 3040 toner cartridge low toner override by Anonymous (3/22/10 12:12 PM) reply + / -Yes -- you open the top cover and then hit Cancel and Secure Print at the same time. This brings up the toner cartridge menu. You can scroll up and down through the 4 cartridges (2 entries per color for some reason) and Press OK twice for each entry. The printer will briefly show Accepted for each reset. After doing this, I am still printing on all four of the starter cartridges and I did not cover any windows with tape or any of that stuff. Good luck, Rex Anderson Hey I just wanted to say thanks as funds are low right now. It works on a 4040CN. Thank againSteve Putting a small piece of electrical tape over the window worked for a TN-460 cartridge in Brother DCP-1400. Woot! Thanks for posting this solution Here is an update, Brother has actually caught on to the "black tape" over the sensor bypass, my 6-month old HL-4070CDW has the black tape installed and still hit a "hard stop" due to the Magenta cartridge "being out of toner". I also tried the Factory Reset with no change. I actually had to purchase a new magenta cartridge, install it, let the printer restart, and register a "full" magenta cartridge, then pull out the new one and put back in my still VERY FULL old magenta cartridge and worked just fine. My guess is that the new models must be using some type of RFID technology. People smarter than me may be able to figure a way around this without having to layout the \$80 for the tone cartridge. I have an MFC-9120CN, color laser. I am having the same problem, machine demands a new cartridge, even though there is still lots of toner left. Any ideas on how to reset the counter on the MFC-9120CN, TN-210 tonercartridges? Covering up the toner window on the cartridge also worked on a Brother 2170W. It seems so wrong that the printer stops printing when it thinks it is out of toner. I couldn't find electrician's tape, so I used duck tape. Thanks for all this information!! The above works for the HL-4070CDW except press the REPRINT button, there is no SECURE PRINT button on this unit. My guess on the two entries would be one for normal yield cartridge and one for a high yield cartridge?? I was able to reset my "Flashing" Cyan indicator... I don't think I have been this happy since my wedding day and the day my son was born. I was recylcing toners like crazy... now I wish I still had those cartridges! I was wasting so much money on toner and my marketing company was spending thousands a year in toner. Now I am going to be able to save thousands! Thank you so much for sharing this information. I love the internet!!!Gretchen Tussevwww.TussevMarketing.com Just replaced the toner cartridge in my MFC-7340 at almost 2100 pages! This was the starter cartridge supposedly good for about 1000 pages, quit printing at just over 700 pages. I applied the black tape trick and got nearly 3 times the use. Towards the end the last few dozen pages began to look a little dirty with toner spots but the print darkness was still excellent. Dirty appearance went away with new cartridge. Hey, thanks So much YAY! The simple "duct tape over the eye" works perfectly! Only, not knowing exactly what is meant by eyes, I covered 4 things. Thank you. AllOn the Brother HL4050CDN (and presumably others that take the TN-150BK/TN-150C/TN-150M/TN-150Y toner cartridges), there are TWO fixes required to circumvent early toner errors: 1. To reset the page counts in the printer, you can use the "Cancel + Reprint" method posted above by Anonymous (posted 5/20/10 10:44 AM). Unless you're printing bulk photos, this will be the first hurdle you hit.2. Once toner levels are low enough, you'll also need to stick some black tape over the "eyelet" on the toner. The eyelet is the ring made of clear plastic - there is one on each end of the toner, though one is a bit hard to see. I used regular sticky tape coloured in with a black marker. For me, this step fixed error message "REPLACE BLACK(K) TONER CARTRIDGE". I THINK that removing and then re-setting a cartridge also resets the printer page count, so an alternative to step 1 above is to simply remove and then re-install each cartridge. (I am in the habit of giving each cartridge a gentle, horizontal shake while it's out to level out the toner). CheersAlex it's not working for me i covered everything remotely like lever inside on the left. I turned it off, took the toner out, taped that lever in the pressed position, put the toner back in, and turned it on. The web interface said "cartridge error". I figured that was a bad thing, so with it still on, I took the tape off the white lever. Put the toner back in, and it's back to printing just fine. I've also got the toner saver feature turned on... Gotta say this is one of the best ways I've spent \$100, as I've definitely saved that much in inkjet refills. Hey gang, glad to see that so many of you are having good results saving money and extending the life of their toner cartridges. Thought I'd share an additional bit of info I picked-up over the last couple weeks. When you do as we have discussed to further the life of a cartridge, I have noticed that, after a while, the wiper mechanism begins to deteriorate and the machine starts leaking progressively more and more stray toner onto the printed page. Whether this is a diabolical plan by Brother to thwart our other efforts, or just coincidental, the fact remains that after you print for another several hundred (or thousand) more pages, the jig is eventually up! Sadly, I do not believe there is a fix for this, In my case, I just keep printing until I can't stand it anymore or I have a document heading out of house that has to look good. At this point, you will need to swap out the old unit (carefully! ... as toner is now want to fly everywhere as the cartridge is removed). The good news is that use of a new unit completely fixes the issue! While this is all pretty straight forward, it highlights an important issue pertaining to the selection of replacement toners: ALWAYS USE A REMANUFACTURED CARTRIDGE. There are some inexpensive "drill and fill" units out there that, for this reason, should be avoided. The toner will be full, but the wipers and other mechanicals will remain unchanged. It is my concern that if not bad already, these will also soon wear out and copy quality will quickly degrade accordingly. Instead, be sure to buy fully REMANUFACTURED units from a reputable supplier (Amazon seems to have a good selection) that have all such "wear sensitive" components replaced. It may cost more but the unit will likely last hundreds, if not thousands, of prints longer. Best of luck... and keep fighting! A color will use colors to print black print unless you set print properties to mono or B&W. This will save a tremendous amount of color on ordinary test print jobs. Thanks! Dave, awesome. Mentioned it previously, but I'll say again that I'm having good luck with "Toner Save Mode". Access it as follows: In Windows: Start Menu > Devices & Printers > RT click on printer icon > Printing Preferences > Advanced > Device Options (5th of the 5 boxes shown) > Toner Save Mode > EnablePrints on this setting are lighter but I find them sufficient for most of my internal uses. I am using a Brother MFC-9450CDN. I am trying to do a batch of 500 copies and am amazed that I've already had to swap out brand new print cartridges twice. I thought they were supposed to yield at least 1500 copies! This is costing me hundreds of dollars. Does anyone use this type of model and have ideas on how, if possible, can I re-use these toner cartridges or extend the life of the cartridges?? @bellagirlThat sounds like an awful lot of toner usage for what (according to Brother) is "an AFFORDABLE, network-ready color laser all-in-one suitable for any home office or small/medium sized business...". Does the document you are printing have large solid areas of color? What print settings are you using?Something is definitely wrong here. I tried all of the above and nothing worked until I found a post on Amazon that did the trick and stopped me from exploding ... would have been messy.]Here's how to fix the problem (quoted from someone else but it really works... you can Google this problem and it will say to put electrical tape on the sensor, but that does NOT NOT work with this printer. Only this will work): Toner Reset Menu for Brother HL3070: 1. Open Cover where you access toner cartridges 2. Press CANCEL & SECURE PRINT buttons at one time and you'll see the toner menus on screen 3. Press + or - to navigate through to the toners you need to reset. Hit "Y" to reset the toner. Scroll through and repeat for each toner color as necessary. 4. Hit OK button when prompted. Reset menu for the durable parts counters: 1. Open cover where you access toners 2. Press GO and + button at once, you'll see menu come up displaying reset counters for drum, fuser, etc. This unit has stopped printing four times, telling me that I've burned through three magenta toner cartridges. Each time I used this "secret" reset method and fixed it. I'm still on the original magenta cartridge. This "secret" reset method has saved me \$200.Original Link - Scroll Down the Page: Got an HL 2170W, had the first optical sensor message after 499 pages (yes exactly that amount). Covered with tape and now at 2522 pages for the gear mechanism. Unfortunately I screwed that one up and had to change the printer, and clean up fallen toner : (Does anyone know how to override the cartridges for an mfc495cw? Hey smart people!! need some mega help with my Brother MFC 9440 printer. It says the Magenta is out, even though I can clearly see more powder still left in the cartridge. I tried covering the eye holes up like previously posted, but I think this newer model is too smart for that. Any suggestions/tips?Thanks so much! As has been repeatedly discussed, the optical cartridge sensor is only one of THREE "low toner" warning systems used. Covering the cartridge "window" isn't going to help if it's the printer's software copy counter that's generating the message, or if there's a flag gear that's reached it's stop. Answers and solutions to all these possible culprits can be found on this thread. Good luck. @Sparkleojoy When that magenta really goes, make sure you replace it with a genuine Brother magenta. Otherwise your prints may look drastically different. If you go purchasing some generic cartridge, you may be unpleasantly surprised. What should be deep red may come out almost orange! A word to the wise. oo my god, normally i really mind my language!worked fine for lexmark c500n (as mentioned by another user before):a brief introduction as boons like me need it :D1. open front lid2. take out any cartrige3. at the bottom of its rail there are 2 diods iirc a red one on the left, a tranparent on the right those are to be covered with tape4. go to 2. for other cartriges :D :D I have a Brother HL 2040 and a Mac. Nothing worked, so I called the number for Brother posted above. They had me try covering the lenses with post-its which didn't work. He said if that works it means the toner actually is low. Then he had me press 'Go' three times, and a sheet entitled "Print Settings" printed out. Obviously the toner was fine. Then he had me uninstall and reinstall the printer (Apple icon; Preferences; Printer & Fax; then - and + signs to uninstall and reinstall printer.) That worked!! On the brother HL-7040CDW, the electrical tape thing did not help me. I left the small tape bits in place, however, while I did the reset. The tip is great -- you have to hold down the reset and cancel buttons while you do the reset. You have to cycle through the cartridge options, because it has one for H (high yield) and for S (standard) for each of the colors. This has worked YAY! Stopped in the middle of printing a report. I will get new cartridges to ensure print quality, but it makes me crazy how this unit a) gives you NO warning and b) stops all three color cartridges at the same page count. I switched from HP, and am finding this really irritating -- the HP always gave you lots of warning before it stopped. I give up. I have a Brother MFC-9440CN and I have just replaced the toner cartridges for the first time. The "Toner life end Replace Magenta and Yellow cartridge" message stays on and the machine won't operate. I called Brother and they won't talk to me because I didn't buy Brother cartridges. For reference, I won't be buying any Brother products ever again. I looked on this site and saw references to putting a piece of electrical tape on something somewhere. That doesn't seem right to me. If I'm trying to fool the machine into thinking I have new cartridges-I HAVE new cartridges. I followed instructions in one posting about resetting. I opened the front door, pressed Clear/Back, then set each color to High. I closed the door and got the same error message. Anybody like to buy a doorstop cheap? This rocks! To go into an UNDOCUMENTED maintenance mode on the MFC-685CW, hit Menu > Black Start > Menu > 76 > 3 > Black Start. This power washes the print heads by forcing a larger amount of ink through the orifices than the normal cleaning cycle listed in the users guide. I had all 3 color head clogged and I used this procedure repeatedly to unclog them. Used the tape over the electric eye on the toner cartridge which was a STARTER cartridge (only 580 prints) and no reset flag gear. Had a toner low warning. Warning disappeared immediately. Thanks for the advice folks. UNBELIEVABLE... THIS ACTUALLY WORKS. Bit of tape on each side of the sensor, and I'm back in business. I'll use this Brother printer until it finally chokes and then I'll never purchase Brother equipment again - rip off merchants! USED THE FIX BY RESETTING THE TONER WITH THE CANCEL AND SECURE PRINT BUTTONS WITH THE HL-3070CW. STILL GOING STRONG AFTER OVER 500 PAGES. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU EVEN THOUGH I BOUGHT A BLACK JUST BEFORE FINDING THIS. EACH TIME I PRINT A PAGE IT IS LIKE CRUSHING BROTHER UNDERFOOT - LOVE IT REVENGE!! Hi amazedorinterman. Changing from Brother to another manufacturer won't help. They all do the same thing: sell you a printer for virtually nothing, then gouge you with the cost of consumables. It's the same for inkjet or laser printers, and is basically the same model used by Gillette, Schick etc., when selling razors/blades. The only way to avoid this is to use clever tricks like this one. Happy printing! RVdave, Thank you for your note on the three separate low-toner detection systems on Brother machines. I personally have used all three of them with great success. At the office, we have a Brother MFC-9840CDW. At home I have a Brother 4040CN (I think. I'm going by memory here). I'm not an expert at all but have had success. Two examples: 1) At home my yellow toner kept giving me the toner life end notice. Using all three bypasses, I extended it's life significantly. Finally, I was frustrated with not being able to bypass it anymore. So I opened the cartridge to see how much toner was left. It was bone dry. so these fixes do work. 2) At work I have the same result. I only made one large mistake though. I was getting splotches of black or yellow or red toner. I would take the drum unit out and use compressed air to get rid of the excess toner. I sprayed the toner rollers off and actually had to rub off some excess toner off the red drum. Now I get red streaks and smears all the time and print quality really sucks. From what I have read here, I'm sure I damaged the drum. But, it has 18K copies on it, so it's probably due. I have had to reset the drum counter once already. RVdave, Thank you for your note on the three separate low-toner detection systems on Brother machines. I personally have used all three of them with great success. At the office, we have a Brother MFC-9840CDW. At home I have a Brother 4040CN (I think. I'm going by memory here). I'm not an expert at all but have had success. Two examples: 1) At home my yellow toner kept giving me the toner life end notice. Using all three bypasses, I extended it's life significantly. Finally, I was frustrated with not being able to bypass it anymore. So I opened the cartridge to see how much toner was left. It was bone dry. so these fixes do work. 2) At work I have the same result. I only made one large mistake though. I was getting splotches of black or yellow or red toner. I would take the drum unit out and use compressed air to get rid of the excess toner. I sprayed the toner rollers off and actually had to rub off some excess toner off the red drum. Now I get red streaks and smears all the time and print quality really sucks. From what I have read here, I'm sure I damaged the drum. But, it has 18K copies on it, so it's probably due. I have had to reset the drum counter once already. Thanks for the electrical-tape solution. It's been greater than 4 years since the original post and the solution still applies. Yay! StevenDH - Glad to hear that the 3 possible over-rides are working for you. After more than 6000 copies, I finally had to replace the black and yellow cartridges because of excessive spatter, which must be a symptom of being low on toner. Another way of telling if you're getting close to being totally out is to look at the cartridge roller. If the roller doesn't have an even coating of toner, it suggests that some areas of the cartridge have little or no toner. In this case, slightly shaking the cartridge from end to end will sometimes even out the toner in the cartridge and buy you some more copies. Of the 3 over-ride solutions, resetting the flag gear is probably the most difficult, and the next time I have to do that I'm going to simply remove the flag gear and see what happens. I don't expect that to be a problem, since some starter cartridges don't have that gear. If anyone has done this, please share your experience. Thanks, and happy holiday. - RVdave After reading a few of these posts about resetting the flag gear, I just wanted to give you a clearer idea of how it works. If you have a black printer, you can usually print a report that shows page counts and # of toner and drum changes. I have been refilling Brother toners for about 10 years now. What the flag gear does is reset the counter as soon as it goes in. It does not as indicated by one of your posters slowly wind down. They are very easy to reset, in fact the older TN 2000/2025/350 type cartridges you just hold it upside down use your thumbs to gently wind the roller backwards(at the edges) and use your finger to move the gear back as you wind the roller. In some cases it just winds back by itself. Then install the cartridge and as long as the window is blocked (its easier to block on the drum) it will go for 2500 pages based on 5\% coverage. The newer models require 3 screws to be undone as brother got smart and put a notch in the gear which stops the above method. The flag gear will then be removed with the side cover and can easily be repositioned. Hope this makes things clearer for people. I read one guy saying he is going to throw it out when the toner runs out. Not a very bright spark!! HP, Canon, Lexmark etc have chips to monitor levels and Samsung now have a chip built into the machine to stop refills. So far Brother are the easiest and most economical printers in both ink and toner for refills. Happy New Year to everyone. Covering 2 holes (1 either side) works perfectly on a Brother 8820D. Thanks to all those who contributed! :D My brother 2270DW printed 100 pages and low toner light came on. It has printed 20 more pages and stop printing. Their is no clear eyes to cover up. How do reset this toner? WOOHOO!!! Second time now my hl-3070 says out of cyan toner and then magenta. Did the open top thing, cancel and secure print together, press OK close the lid and back in business!!! Thank you ever so much for protection from this rip-off (oversight?) So far saved \$1000Yockomo Got the Toner End Life message on my MFC-7840W after only 650 copies on a TN-330 toner cartridge (rated at 1500 copies.) WTF!? Thank the Good Lord for the industrious users on this forum!!! Slapped a piece of black gaffer's tape over each sensor window, popped the cartridge back in and the printer jumped to life, printing the very page that the corporate basterds at Brother were just trying to tell me wouldn't print until I buy more \$#!+ I don't need!!!Great printer BTW. Hey Mikera, wonder what the MF stands for in the MFC-7840W stand for? Ha ha. So true Yockomo! Hi All:New member here, did a search to find out how to extend the life of my toner cartridge and wa-la, found you all. Okay, I am a 66 year old great granny with a Brother MFC 9840 CDW after reading the post on putting a piece of black electrical tape over the little colored holes on the toner cartridge, works like a charm, no more "Low Toner" error. I have read through my whole operating manual and cannot find where I can get a count of how many papers I have printed. Please direct me on this as I would like to see how many additional prints I get after taping the holes. This site is GREAT!TIAGreat Granny Duh! Just found my answer, been playing with all the buttons and it is in the "User Setting List". Okay here ya go, Total printed=1995, Color=1200, B&W=795, print density is on level 3 this is all on the starter toner cartridges. When my error message for "Low Toner", I came to this site. Still need to read more of the posts to learn all 3 ways of resetting the toner carts, but I am a happy camper now.I am not using the toner save as I am working on family genealogy and want the best possible graphics and prints. Hi,I was having difficulty resetting a black refilled Brother 5340D cartridge and found the solution at: a couple of screws to undo and re-position a cog which worked well for me. I still have a black wavy line printing down the left hand side of the page which is another mystery! (drum on its way out?) Hope this helps someone. Colin - Thanks for the update, that was interesting. I previously had a line down one side, but it turned out to be caused by a small paper scrap stuck to the cartridge roller and cleaning the roller with rubbing alcohol solved the problem. It's interesting to know that a corona wire wiper can cause a similar problem. Live and learn! - Dave I have a brother MFC 9420 CN. The toner cartridge was showing out and thus preventing the printer from functioning (Stupid idea brother) the same idea applies here as with the MFC 9440, hole on left side of cartridge, cover the hole with something black (I used a black piece of paper taped over the hole). The toner out/ low message disappeared. Thanks to the other posters here great idea Absolutely outstanding! I tried the reset routine on my HL4070CDW and it worked!THANKS!!! hello, i have DCP 130C and it got a paper stuck in it. i pulled it out and it is working fine now...but! it is now aligned now.i tried to align it with no success.. what can i do?thank you. ok, i found a paper under the printers hear taken it.now it is more aligned but not 100\%.still need an advise.thanks. Look I'm just a simple girl and you all are ingenious. I took a big guess at what the sensor was, covered it with tape, put it back in and crossed my fingers. IT FRIGGIN WORKED!By the way, the sensor on the "non gear side" is sort of a clear circular indented cap. It's on both side, but one side is covered with black end cap (if you will) over the whole thing. That doesn't make any sense does it....So I've had this extra toner sitting here waiting to be installed whenever what I've got runs out and now it's going to be waiting a while longer. I'm very grateful! Now who can help me get this byotch back to printing wirelessly?! Kate - If you look closely at the cap, or gear, side of the cartridge you'll notice a small 1/2" slit just below the cap that the light can shine through. You'll also notice than the carriage holding the cartridges has a hole on each side that lines up with the cartridge windows. Some of us prefer to cover the carriage holes instead of those on the cartridges. That way you won't have to reapply tape if you ever change the cartridges. Good luck. - Dave I also have a low toner warning on the Brother HL-2270DW. With no obvious windows to cover up I am thinking it is maybe just a drum counter or something along those lines. Has anyone had success overriding the low toner with this model yet?-John I used some white-out on the sensor and it worked fine. Plus, I had to find a way to use up my old white-out. I used some white-out on the sensor and it worked fine. Plus, I had to find a way to use up my old white-out. y-A-A-A, THIRD TIME USED THE CANCEL+SECURE TO ACCESS THE YELLOW WITH THE COVER OPEN ON MY HL-3070CW.HOW MUCH LONGER CAN THIS GO ON FOR? LET YOU KNOW . OK'D IT AND, YES, IT WORKS AGAIN. THESE CHARACTERS SHOULD HAVE THEIR --- HANDED TO THEM ON A PLATTER! Thanks Dave. I get spatter especially when I hold my coffee mug over the printer. MAGIC, when I take it away - no more spatter! I'll have to writer Brother about this phenomenon. I came across this site because I researching a way to fix my printer. I installed a brand new OEM Brother TN-210C (cyan) cartridge and yet my relatively new MFC-9320CW indicated I was STILL out of Cyan. I decided to go with the printer override function on the computer rather than cover the scanner eye because the solution seemed more elegant. So I used the advice given by "Anonymous (4/9/10 10:09 AM)," based on BrettSoCal from 2008. I reset both the STR and STD settings for my cyan cartridge, and it worked. I tried a test sheet of blues greens and purples, and they printed marvelously. Suspecting that I had been conned by my machine, I decided to go back and re-install my TN-210 magenta and yellow cartridges, which I also had recently replaced. (Luckily, I had not yet sent them back to Brother to be recycled; sadly, I had already sent back the black one.) I re-installed the magenta and yellow cartridges and reset the toner monitor as described by Anomymous. I then printed a test sheet of a bunch of colors that have yellow and red in them. Perfect!In short, this solution worked for me. I don't know how many more pages I will get from these cartridges, but every page will feel great because I have already invested the money in replacements. Brother, I love your printer, but your toner fraud is ridiculous! Does anyone know if this trick works on the model MFC -8480 DN?For the toner Tn-620 or tn-650? A class lawsuit should really take place. I love your post! Too bad you wasted the black toner. Hil have a Brother mfc 7340 - toner lower error. I'm not sure where to find the sensor to make this print more copies. Is it on the toner cartridge or on the printer? - Technically challenged! Thanks I am ready to throw the entire printer away (9840cdw). I did the white out thing and that didn't work, I can't figure out how to make that work and NOW I have a Drum replacment 0\% life left. The Drum was replaced about 2 months ago!! So, I went to Staples and spent yet more money on toner, and now I don't know what to do about this Drum. I have called Brother, but trying to get an answer is worse than the dentist. Help! Sorry forgot to mention my model is hl 2270dw WOW!!! thank you for the tip I did it with my HL-2170W. I'm using an HL-4150CDN with a TN-315 toner. I used the tape method on the black toner and it worked like a champ. BUT, when I've tried the same trick on the Cyan, the Yellow, and the Magenta, it DID NOT work... I don't understand why it worked so well with the black and none of the others. Next, I removed the screws from the gear cover and tried to determin what the "flag gear" is. There are 4 gears with this toner cartridge. I don't have a clue which gear does what. Any suggestions? black tape works with brother MFC 5460CN. It works with all colours apart from yellow. Not sure why. Put the right over the little window in the middle of each ink cartridge - covering right around. Might need yellow tape for yellow perhaps, or red tape. Printer is printing fine - quality is great, just goes to show that the ink hasn't run out yet, which is shameful in this day and age of recycling and reusing, glad there are people out there willing to figure this out. Its not just about wasting money but wasting resources too. I have a brother mfc 7840wl first used the electrical tape trick and that worked for a while. Then got the toner low message again. I then tried the *00 trick, which works as follows:1. lift lid and open front cover2.press clear/back. "Replace Drum?" will appear on the screen.3.Press "*00" it will then read accepted and the toner low error should go away. Thanks for all your help guys. Where, exactly, is that sensor on the Brother HL 2270 DW laser printer..or on the /tn420 cartridge? This is a reasonably new printer in January, 2011. The cartridge is a "starter," but it also provides a very low number of copies. ThanksRLP @ rpolhillThe HL22xx series doesn't have an optical sensor anymore. The machine counts the rotations of the developer roller. You can put the machine into "continue mode" in case the toner led is on. Push the go button 7 times and you can print until the tonerunit is fully empty :-) @ rpolhillThe HL22xx series doesn't have an optical sensor anymore. The machine counts the rotations of the developer roller. You can put the machine into "continue mode" in case the toner led is on. Push the go button 7 times and you can print until the tonerunit is fully empty :-) I have a HL 2240. I read a post about pressing the go button 7 times and it WORKED! Mine did not have a sensor on it by the way. I am printing again! Thanks! Can someone please explain where exactly is the hole that should be covered on a TN-210K cartridge? I have taken this cartridge out of a Brother HL-3070CW printer but I am not able to find the hole. So I pushed the button 7 times and it worked for 2 days and then guit again. thanks saved me alot of time years later and wasted money I love the net! Was ready to purchase a new TN-360 cartridge when I saw a comment about covering over the sensor hole. Works great now!!!! Thanks all!!! brother dcp330c cant get paper unjammed Instead of the tape I just used a black sharpie to fill in the clear cover where the sensor reads the low toner and that worked. I only did it on the non gear side. Its not giving me a low toner reading anymore. HL-4150cdn : Hack the toner counter! Open cartridge door and then press both "cancel" and "secure" buttons simultaneously. This will take you to a hidden menu where you will find 3 counters for each of the 4 toners. That will be 12 counters in all. Reset each one and you are back in business making your hard earned dollars stretch 20-40\% above what Brother planned for your dollars. Shame on Brother for doing these HP style tactics! I dropped HP after selling and installing nothing but HP printers for over 15 years. HP quality went in the dirt and the drivers were terrible resource hogs that would cause all kinds of problems. Mostly because they used Microsoft .Net crap. I have been very happy with Brother printers and especially the low overhead print drivers. But this really ticked me off when my clients started having to replace toner when it was still nearly half full. I am sure glad someone started this thread! Cheers! The *00 trick also works on the MFC 8480DN. Taping the sensors did nothing, but then I opened the cartridge door, then pressed "Clear/back". "Replace Drum?" appeared, then I entered "*00" and the toner worked again. Thanks for the tip. For the high capacity cartridge, the black tape over the holes did not work for me.I did the flag gear reset, which is at the left side, top right, a white gear. Remove the two screws and reset that gear - worked for me.Google "tn580 flag gear" since I cannot copy the google result link found below. See also various posts in this forum on this.[PDF]BR5250TN Refill instruction for Brother TN-540/550/570/TN580 Toner ... File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat - Quick ViewBrother TN550 / TN580 reset gear (sold separately) - required for Brother TN350 / TN580 ... Place the flag gear on the post and position the spring ...www.deal800.com/.../Refill-instruction-for-BR5250TN-Toner\%20Cartridges .pdf This is the new printer hl2270dw and TN420 cartridge. Thank you for those who suggested hitting "go" 7 times it worked. Now the caveat is when the toner really runs out how do we go about refills. Any brilliant minds out here who can suggest how not to send cartridges to landfills and refill the new TN420/450. Thanks for reading. Sandy Hi there, I changed the network settings from stop to continue and then I pressed the go button 7 times but it still would not print. It printed out a network configuration sheet instead. I tried restarting the printer and network and when I did that my printer does not appear on my network anymore. Got any ideas??? Thank you so very much, I have recently purchased my mfc-9320 cw and was very disappointed at the count so far. I did go out and replace the black begrudgingly, but now it wants the colors replaced which just are not in the budget right now. I can not express my gratitude for this info. Thank you is all I can say, I am looking forward to seeing how many more prints I get. Lori This thread is awesome! I applied tape on right side of the cartridge where it has transparent eye on Brother TN360 toner. This thread is awesome! I applied tape on right side of the cartridge where it has transparent eye on Brother TN360 toner. It helped me save toner. Very Nice. Have a HL-40C Color Laser, printing just fine then: "Tone Life End Replace Cyan, Magenta & Yellow toner Cartrige". Tried tape with black marker, no change. Any suggestions? I think my computer is actually an HL-4040CN. Anyway with general help from above thread got it fixed. What I did: Removed 2 screws from the plastic end cap of the Gear-End of toner cartridge. Then lift 1 small plastic tab on top of end cap to remove end cap. Lift tension spring wire off Gray plastic gear piece - this seems to be a mechanical stop. Lift the Gray plastic gear piece out if its gears and rotate it about 1/4 turn CCW and set it back into its gears. Set the tension wire back on to it. Snap the end cover back on and replace 2 screws. You will have to do this for each Toner cartridge the Menu says to change. Works great! What a major ripoff! END OF LIFE? More like beginning of profit stream. Good job Tumbleweeds, I could continue printing till I refill next. Much appreciated. I am back printing again. I was not happy with the number of copies it printed so had not purchased new cartridges or toner. Great info. HI GUYS, Did it again for the third time! Now up to at least 1000 sheets on the same cartridges

which only gave me 200 to start. No lines, no fading, nothing but good copy. This is with the fix for an HL-3070 W for which I first bought a black toner cartridge unaware of the "fix". Thank you, thank you, thank you for this thread. Haven't read all the posts here - just came because my toner "ran out". After reading about putting tape on the reader (and not having any electrical tape at hand), I inked over the recessed camera-eye with a magic marker. Works like a charm for my Brothers MFC7220. Thanks all. For the MFC-9560cdw, to reset the "replace toner" message and allow continued printing, 1. Open the front door as if you were going to change the toner cartridge. 2. With the front door open, press the "menu" button to bring up a reset menu. Scroll to the toner cartridge that you want to reset and press "OK", then "exit". Close front door and wait while printer resets itself. I have a Brother HL-4570CDW and the black tape trick works. Eventually, though, I do have to reset the printer to detect new (or existing) toner cartridges to get the bloody "Replace Toner" message to turn off so I can print. This reset procedure is not published in any Brother support documents or manuals. I had to call their support team and threaten to return my non-functing printer under warranty to get this info and they made me jump through a bunch of hoops, including providing proof of purchase for my genuine, Brother toner cartridge - what a crock. Open the front cover (toner bay). Press the "Cancel" and "Secure" buttons simultaneously until you see the "reset" menu appear. Press the 'up' arrow and note the word "Accept". Press "OK" again. You're good to go. Note: another user on the Web has posted that you hold down the "Back" button and the "Cancel" button simultaneously to reset the HL-4570, but that did not work for me; maybe Brother is changing this procedure with each firmware update to foil us users into having to prematurely buy toner. I see a class-action lawsuit in Brother's future for manufacturing printers that don't operate when toner is still viable. I have 3 Brothers - HL-2270-DW, MFC-8480-DN(All in one), and a HL-4070-CDW(4 color cartridge). For the life of me I cannot figure out what hole gets covered with tape or which side of the cartridge those holes are located. Can anyone help? Do these printers have this type of cartridge that can be faked? Is it only OEM cartridges or remanufactured, too? Thanks in advance for any help - I go through toner like water. I have the 2270DW that works really well, but I can't figure out how to extend the life of the cartridge. I have tried pressing the go button and setting the printer settings on continue and it didn't work. Help! I've been using this printer for almost two years and have been able to overrride the low toner until just recently. The last batch of OEM toner cartridges I got run out after only about 1,000 pages, the toner light comes on and NOTHING I do can get it to print more even though I can feel the weight of the toner still left in the cartridge. I have done the tape, I have reset the printer.....anyone have any ideas? Thanks! What is the exact model # of the cartridges you have. Not the printer. The cartridge model number looks like TN-XXX. Also is the cartridge a real OEM Brother replacement, not a starter or aftermarket? You can email me directly at Brother 9840-CWD Toner Low OverrideToner TN-110 (lo capacity) and TN-115 (hi capacity)Step 1Tape the sensor hole on the right side of the toner. Put Black Electrical tape over the sensor hole in the toner cartridge tray (holds all 4) instead of putting it on the cartridge itself. Step 2Some brother cartridges use what is called a "flag gear". The "flag gear" slowly turns (counterclockwise) as the toner cartridge is used, which finally hits a stop that appears to force the toner light on and prevent printing even if there is toner left. When it gets to the end of its range, a spring stops it from turning further and the printer will not print until the cartridge is replaced. When a cartridge is refilled, this flag gear must be reset or printer will think the cartridge is still empty and it will not work. You can also squeeze some extra life out of a used cartridge using this method. Caution: in cartridges that have a built-in waste toner reservoir, resetting the flag gear can result in continuing to print when the reservoir is full and spilling waste toner into your printer. This can ruin your printer, so be careful. In printers that have a separate waste toner receptacle, this is not an issue. Flag Gear Resets: 1. Orient cartridge so that you are looking at the end of the cartridge with the developer roller to your left. (This is the opposite end from the filler cap). You should see 2 phillips head screws, one at the top right, one at the bottom left. You should also see part of the gray flag gear through an opening in the end cap.2. Remove screws and the end cap they were holding in place(one or 2 gears may fall out when you do this, but they should be simple to pop back into place).3. Note attachment point of the spring over flag gear, then temporarily remove it so you can reset the gear.4. Remove the flag gear and reinstall it so that its teeth are just beginning to mesh with the adjoining gear.5. Reinstall the spring.6. Reinstall the end cap. Hello,I have a Brother HL-4040CDN and a HL-4070CDW. Both printers in the past week have stopped working with the same errors."Put the magenta cartridge back in" and "Put the cyan cartridge back in "respectively. The cartridges are in. Both drum units are newer and have been working fine. I've tried swapping those out and tried different cartridges, but can't get the printer to recognize that there is a cartridge present. Any help is appreciated. On a HL-2270DW, hitting "Go" 7 times got me up and running. Super frustrated right now. I have an HL-2230 and haven't been able to find the sensor hole. I've covered every hole on the cartridge, but nothing works. Help? Works with my MFC-495CW That's so great! I knew it was suspicious that it was out of ink the 1st time I tried to print after moving. Tried to shake the cartridge, but that didn't work. Gotta love the internet. I have a Brother MFC-9120CN and I have to replace the toner every 100 pages or so which is CRAZY. I just replaced the Magenta cartridge and the REPLACE TONER message still beeps and scrolls across the screen. WHY?How do I over ride this unit to maximize the toner? I have a Brother MFC-9120CN and I have to replace the toner every 100 pages or so which is CRAZY. I just replaced the Magenta cartridge and the REPLACE TONER message still beeps and scrolls across the screen. WHY? How do I over ride this unit to maximize the toner? i bought a new brother cartridge and replaced with the old one. i can not print anything even though the sign reads ready. did i have to replace the drum as well? i bought the damn printer 4 months ago, need help, behiat, you better off starting a new thread of your own, and make sure you mention exactly what printer you have in the subject/title, and the problem as well of course, for example; brother hl-xxxx won't print, For Brother MFC 9970 cdw open the door where the toner cartridges are located. Once opened, press the "1" key on the key pad. This will bring up the toner menu where you can reset the toner level or change from standard to high capacity. Does anyone have any suggestions to re-set the toner cartridge on the Brother HL-2240, toner cartridge TN-420. I just purchased about two months ago. I've read most of the suggestions above, but this seems to be a newer model and I can't see any sensors on the toner cartridge itself. Any help would be appreciated. i'm having the same problem as tanga, i just cant find the sensor eye anywhere :S Wow, I feel like I owe the owner of this page a Beer! Tried the double button method on my brother 3040....worked a treat. ThanksL IS there any kind of override or way to lengthen the life of the drum or belt assemblies on the Brother HL-4070 CDW? @halp3244 - I may have fixed the low toner problem by following some of the suggestions listed above. I removed the toner cartridge from the drum but I still didn't see the sensor on my toner cartridge TN-420, so I began putting small pieces of duct tape on every little hole I saw on the sides of the cartridge.Ridiculous, I know, but I ended up just taping up the smallest hole on the right side of the cartridge, inserted the door open and pressed the 'go' button about ten times, maybe more. Then I closed the cartridge door and pressed the 'go' button again several more times. Not exactly sure what I did, but it worked. Hope that helps some. Thanks to everyone for all their suggestions on this site. @halp3244 - Nevermind, spoke too soon. But it did print for a couple of days. I guess I need to keep reading... Lol. I have the Brother MFC-9320CW laser printer. How do I get the low toner message off. Could someone please tell me how to override the low toner cartridge message for all the color cartridges and I know there is more toner in all three cartridges. Please help. I too have the MFC 9320CW with the same problem as you had. Could you tell me the fix for the low toner message for the color cartridges. I know there is alot more ink in those cartridges. Thanking you in advance for your info. Mel, read Tanga's response from above. I too covered a small hole in the right side of each carrtidge and it worked. No need to remove the toner roll, just cover the hole on the cartridge. It is the hole that looks into the clear hole on the toner roll. Does anyone have any tips how to trick a Brother HL2140 into thinking the toner is full when "low toner" or "no toner" comes on? I tried the 'refresh' button as well. I right-clicked on the printer icon on my taskbar and then clicked 'refresh'. I'm assuming this is where I'm supposed to refresh. That didn't seem to work. I ended up restarting my computer (left my printer on), this seemed to help after following some suggestions, like covering up the holes and pressing the 'go' button several times. This seemed to work!! We'll see for how long, Lol. Thanks! @Shishu - Try restarting your computer. This seemed to help me. I tried restarting. Nothing. Now it says the printer is offline. Does it say that when I have to replace the toner? Ok, sorry back online, but there isn't a refresh option on the printer. Anyone know any tricks for the Brother MFC-7460 when the "End Toner" message comes up? This uses a TN-420 or 450 toner. Thanks, Tim HL-2170W Received TONER LIFE ERROR at page 712.Now at page 1915 and still going. It really works. Just a note regarding Brother toner cartridges... you should NEVER shake a Brother toner cartridge or turn it upside down. Always keep them horizontal. The Brother machines do not collect waste toner in the drum unit - it finds its way back into the bottom of the toner cartridge, along with paper fibres and dust. If you shake the toner cartridge you will mix this "dead" toner and dust into the good, fresh toner and cause poor (grey and grainy) images and dirty background. Once the cartridge has been in use in the printer keep it level and never shake it; that way the good toner will stay on top where it belongs, and you will be able to keep using all of the good toner until you get down to the last bit of dust and rubbish at the bottom. ... I also meant to say that it is a good idea to tap the toner cartridge with something like the handle of a screwdriver to loosen any toner that is adhering to the sides of the cartridge and drop into the pool of good toner, without any shaking of the cartridge, which is bad as I explained above. Anyone now how to access the toner override menue on the MFC-9970CDW? I get to the close front cover error but my buttons are different and pushing them just makes the machine beep. I have Fax, Scan, Print Data/Job Cancel, Stop/Exit Black and Color buttons that say Start in between them. Of course the normal dial pad as well. I can see toner in the carts but it will not let me print at all even though I have selected mono and do not have a warning for black. I believe I saw something about a problem like this on an earlier post but didn't see an answer that truly advised me. I am getting a background print on my documents that looks like a reverse night sky (lots of black dots). I am using a HL-4040. My black cartridge is a refurbished tn-115bk. I had this problem before replacing the cartridge and thought a new cartridge might cure it. Any help would be greatly appreciated. How amny cycles are on the printer? This sounds like the drum unit, not the cartridge. Thanks for all guys, I got a Brother 8480MFC, and the trick about de electrical tape and the code "*00" really works. Thanks to the poster for procedure for the 9840 --it works on the 9560 as well:1. Turn on the printer 2. Push the button on the front of the printer to open the cartridges. 2. Push the Clear/Back button to bring up a reset menu. There are 8 different toner functions (for simplicity, two B's, two C's, two M's, and two Y's).4. For each of these eight functions in turn, push the O.K. button and then push it again to indicate 'Reset'. After a few seconds, it will say 'Accepted' and will then display a message that the cover is open.5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 for each of the 8 toner functions.6. When finished, close the door and the status bar will be reset to normal with no error message. The Brother support line insists there is no such reset procedure and admits that the out of toner flag is based entirely on pagecount. Result: increased toner sales for Brother. Thank you so much Rashiki! Your stepby-step procedure worked for me. My cyan cartridge doesnt show up on my led screen. When I try to print it tells me to replace the cartridge is full. I have placed a piece of tape over the sensor. Any thoughts on what I can do. I have a Brothers HL-4070cdw For some reason the icon for the cyan cartridge still doesnt come up but it nw says toner life end. I have black tape on both ends of the cartridge and it is still saying toner life end. Help plezzzz Once the printer signals toner end of life you CANNOT place tape over the eyes. You must complete this step when the printer signals TONER LOW. Once the printer signals end of life you MUST reset the flag which is located on the gear side of the cartridge. If this is a starter cartridge, there won't be the reset flag. You must purchase this flag. Did you refill your own toner? If so, this flag can be purchased by the vendor that sold you the toner. where do i find this flag The flag is behind the cover on the gear side of the cartridge. But again, IF this is the cartridge that came with your machine (starter cartridge) then it will NOT have the flag. Again, contact your supplier that you purchased the toner from for more information. Perhaps they will have a photo on "how to refill your cartridge" or just check on youtube as I have seen a video on this procedure. I Had a jam in my computer. I pulled out the toner to remove the jam but now it is not going back. I can't understand the instructions given below. Please help. Thanks i have a brother MFC 7860 DW and the toner is TN-420. It says toner ended and i replaced it, but still it says replace toner and i tried to open and close the door many times but it did not work. Can any one help me in this??? It is very urgent all my office work is pending. i have a brother MFC 7860 DW and the toner is TN-420. It says toner ended and i replaced it, but still it says replace toner and i tried to open and close the door many times but it did not work. Can any one help me in this??? It is very urgent all my office work is pending. This is the best e-tip EVER. Thank you SO MUCH! This has been driving me crazy for ages. The worst part is when you have a full black cartridge, and the colours are low, but there's no setting that lets you use just the black cartridge. Freakin' infuriating. The electrical tape works like a dream. WOO HOO!!! Just found an incredible resource. It is a pdf showing and telling how to remanufacture the TN350 cartridge. It also identifies and troubleshoots some of the print issues that have been mentioned. Here is the URL www.chernila.by/img/zapravka pdf/Brother TN350 Uninet.pdf Has excellent, clear images. Shows all the gears, how to clean the doctor blade, developer roller, etc. etc. Unfortunately, For the life of me, I cannot find a solution to my toner light on my TN350. I have an HL-2040. I have used the reset technique multiple times. I have done it using the 2 and 5 punch combination and the 2 and 6 punch combination - while of course following the other steps in the process. Sometimes it shows the paper light. When I get that to go off and it starts to cycle to print a page, then the toner light comes on. I have a remanufactured cartridge from Midwest Technology Connection. It is full of toner and it blocks both of the little windows. I put electrical tape over them anyway. Still no help. I repositioned the flag gear arm to the 10 o'clock position. I got this cartridge because the toner light showed up on my "starter" cartridge. Unfortunately, I left that one with the refurbisher, thinking it should be recycled...... So now i don't have another one to try on my printer. Any ideas folks? I am not sure where to find all the sensors in this machine. Also, I have a guestion. When I pull the cartridge, that is all that comes out. The manual and the posts on this page all talk about how the drum and the cartridge should come out in one piece. I see the developer roller when I open the back of the machine, but i don't see the drum. I know that it should be colored and look shiny, sort of metallic - I've worked with lots of copiers, so i've seen them. Where is the drum hiding in this machine? Any ideas or feedback would be appreciated. MFC9970cdw Cannt for the life off me override toner cartrige. Bought new printed 1700 sheets mostly black. Replaced black cartridge and after 200 nsheets printer looks up needing asking for 3 colours MYC and will not print black on its own. Please help. Thanks CiscoMan - bad news...it looks like you have left the drum with the refurbisher, or else maybe in your desk cupboard when you removed the starter toner. The toner can not be removed from the machine without also removing the drum - they are clicked together. If your toner is now coming out alone, then the drum has gone somewhere outside the machine. (The drum surface is a burnt brown colour - half glossy but not as shiny as in many other copiers/printers. Refilled Cartridge, still says out of toner. How do I reset it?Here is a solution for the same problem for Canon MF3240:All you have to do is open the left side cover (two screws on the front and two bigger ones on the back) and disconnect the black connector with four purple wires as shown on the picture: Reset out of toner replace toner message Canon MF3240 This thread was an excellent help to me, thank you! I use LC1100 Brother cartridges and I located the window which I suspected was telling the printer to tell me to replace the cartridge. I stuck a white label around it, and could not believe it when on my computer screen the printer now believed the cartridge to be totally full! Thanks to the fact that Brother are not great at sending out bunches of recycling bags, I have seven cartridges that I have not yet recycled, so will be going back through them if they've not dried up as I can see there is ink still in them. Everyone should know about this as it's such a waste of money and resources. Thanks all! This thread was great! The first postings were so helpful--and it's 2011!I have an HL-2170W. Couldn't have printed more than a couple hundred pages over the course of about a year and a half. Printer said the toner was gone suddenly. It was printing just fine before. I didn't have black tape, so I took someone else's advice (from a post 4 years ago, ha!) and used a black sharpie to color in one toner cartridge sensor and colored in a tiny piece of paper with black sharpie and taped it over the other sensor. Works perfectly! Not sure if it matters but I made sure to have the masking tape only cover the edges, so it wouldn't create any reflective surface or show my fingerprint smudges. Thanks peeps! Hi! I have a MFC-J830W that is going threw LC61CL cartridges to quickly. I just put this last cartridge in 3 wks age and the printer message tells me it is out which is impossible plus when i shack it it has plenty of ink swishing inside there. The cartridge before this lasted 2 wks and the first cartridge that came with the unit lasted 7 months. Thanks to OppressedPrinterUserYour tips is working for my printer brother HL-2140.. It is working well now! I know it's been a long time since a lot of this was posted, but I had to create an account just so I could sav a great big THANK YOU to lukew who posted the solution of removing the screws from the end of the toner cartridge to reveal the bothersome gear. Even though I was trying to fix a TN115 and not the same cartridge he was talking about, the procedure was about the same. I removed the 2 screws to take off the end of the cartridge. In my case the offending gear was white with a little trip wire. Once the gear had turned so far, the wire fitted into a little indent so the gear could not turn anymore. I moved the wire, pulled the white gear off and turned it clockwise as to reset where it was turning against another gear. When you put the wire back, it's just like sliding around the smooth edge of the gear until it hits that point where it gets stuck in the indent. The printer is printing again, and I will continue to try this trick until the print is too light and I know that I REALLY need to replace the cartridge. I also want to add that the covering the hole thing did not work for me. However, I chose to leave the tape there anyway just in case. Needless to say, Brother is a crook to pull this crap and I will probably never buy another Brother printer again once this one goes. On a slight aside, this printer has been trying to get me to replace the belt unit for months and I continue to ignore it. As long as it still runs, I'll continue to ignore that warning. The printer (a HL4040CDN) might have been 'cheap' but the cost of keeping it going is astronomical. Thanks to you guys, maybe I can cut that toner cost way down. To reset mfc 7820N after toner end message: 1.open cartridge change door 2.press "options" 3.press "start" 4.type "00", 'accepted' shows in display 5.close door and print Just used a black dry erase marker on the EYE and my toner started working again. It had said "toner end life" before I did that and I just bought my toner a week ago. Only printed 200 or so pages with it, so I knew it actually had plenty of toner left in it. Thanks for the advice from so many. I had guite an ordeal with my MFC9840. It said the black toner was out. I put black tape over the black toner cartridge windows; this worked a little while (pages printed full black PERFECTLY!). Then toner low came on again, and this time I had to resort to trying the reset option in the menu - which did nothing. I also tried resetting the flag gear; apparently the clever folks at Brother were not to be fooled by my juvenile attempts at defeating their anti-customer devices... I then found ANOTHER inner toner window that I colored black with a permanent marker; this finally worked for a little while. Meanwhile all printed pages looked fine - and toner continued to spill out onto my hands. Yeah, the cartridge was empty...sure!So, this is where I'm at; I bought a new high-yield cartridge because I'm getting sick of trying to defeat the toner-low deception. Sigh. Yeah, screw Brother. Let's just print without toners altogether. By the way the eye that "sees the toner" is on the bottom left side inside the toner compartment on the HL-5340D. Brother HL-2170W owner here. Really could use some help. Wife is a teacher w/lots to print & classes start next week. Did tape trick on starter cart a year ago, worked great. But now prints are getting too light. So I bought a freshly re-manufactured TN360 and installed it. Got the TONER light and it wouldn't print. Here's what I tried next:1) Black tape-over-the-sensors trick. No change.2) Opened the door, off/on with big button pressed, pause, 2 presses, pause, 5 presses. No change. (Tried with 7 presses at end too.)3) Reset the flag gear. It worked!! For one print job only (no more than 5 or 6 pages usually). Then, the TONER light comes right back on again. Took a look at the toner cart and the flag gear is no longer reset. I can try Step 3 again (reset the flag), and it works again for one print job (sometimes 2). Then the TONER light comes on again, and sure enough the flag gear has un-reset itself again. Also, now my original start cart gives me the TONER light too!Help! About to throw this thing out the window (on top of a Brother executive, hopefully) - and I'm a patient/handy guy. Aj Brother HL-2170W owner here. Really could use some help. Wife is a teacher w/lots to print & classes start next week. Did tape trick on starter cart a year ago, worked great. But now prints are getting too light. So I bought a freshly re-manufactured TN360 and installed it. Got the TONER light and it wouldn't print. Here's what I tried next:1) Black tape-over-the-sensors trick. No change.2) Opened the door, off/on with big button pressed, pause, 2 presses, pause, 5 presses. No change. (Tried with 7 presses at end too.)3) Reset the flag gear. It worked!! For one print job only (no more than 5 or 6 pages usually). Then, the TONER light comes right back on again. Took a look at the toner cart and the flag gear is no longer reset. I can try Step 3 again (reset the flag), and it works again for one print job (sometimes 2). Then the TONER light comes on again, and sure enough the flag gear has un-reset itself again. Also, now my original start cart gives me the TONER light too!Help! About to throw this thing out the window (on top of a Brother executive, hopefully) - and I'm a patient/handy guy.Aj I am so pissed off right now...I would like to throw this darn Brother HL 3040CN printer out the window...!!!As with all of the Brother printers, I spend a fortune on toner cartridges because the printer refuses to print if I am even slightly low on ink with a toner that has the ability to still print hundreds of pages. I have watched all of the YouTube videos and read all of the threads. I have blocked out all of the optical sensors with electrical tape...first only on one side of the toner, then on both sides and eventually even inside the priter body. Still no luck. Please help me so that my printer will not have to meet it's untimely death!! Hi, can anyone tell me how to override that on Brother DCP-9270? This is great. My Brother HL-4570cdw was out of ink. I thought it would be a chip replacement but the tape trick did the job. I covered two plastic round clear windows on either side of the cartridge. One can't see the black toner well but the other colors are clearly visible. Thanks for those who found this trick WOW ... Thank you for posting. I didn't want to spend \$70 right now on a new cartridge. Shame on Brother for fooling consumers that they are out of ink when in fact there are many more pages left in the cartridge to print. These tricks didn't work on my brother mfc-6490cw. Anyone know of how to get this printer to override a 'low yellow ink' message that doesn't allow any further printing?? Thanks. go into control panel (windows)select devices and printersright click on your printer and select propertiesselect web services pageclick on http link to your printer control panelchoose printer settingsuse admin as usernameaccess as passwordchange many default settings in this case replace toner continueno electrical tape needed!!! How do I fix my printer? It's Brother MFC-7360N and all the solutions stated above do not work for it. Please help Open the front cover exposing the print cartridge tray. Press 1 on your dial key pad and hold until reset menu comes up (It comes up right away). A menu will come up allowing you to reset each individual color cartridge. So far, I have gotten an additional 4 months use from the existing cartridges. I did have to repeat this process between the first reset and now. I found this somewhere on the web. It is saving me a lot of cash. Who knows how long these carts may last. Good Luck! Open the front cover exposing the print cartridge tray. Press 1 on your dial key pad and hold until reset menu comes up (It comes up right away). A menu will come up allowing you to reset each individual color cartridge. So far, I have gotten an additional 4 months use from the existing cartridges. I did have to repeat this process between the first reset and now. I found this somewhere on the web. It is saving me a lot of cash. Who knows how long these carts may last. Good Luck! Open the front cover exposing the print cartridge tray. Press 1 on your dial key pad and hold until reset menu comes up (It comes up right away). A menu will come up allowing you to reset each individual color cartridge. So far, I have gotten an additional 4 months use from the existing cartridges. I did have to repeat this process between the first reset and now.I found this somewhere on the web. It is saving me a lot of cash.Who knows how long these carts may last. Open the front cover exposing the print cartridge tray.Press 1 on your dial key pad and hold until reset menu comes up (It comes up right away). A menu will come up allowing you to reset each individual color cartridge. So far, I have gotten an additional 4 months use from the existing cartridges. I did have to repeat this process between the first reset and now. I found this somewhere on the web. It is saving me a lot of cash. Who knows how long these carts may last. Thanks a lot "mfitch", that did help. For your info just bought the printer and after 1023 pages it came up with the message. I looked as much as suggested on this thread. However, I could not find anything to perform the trick on my MFC-7840W. Anybody tried or knows how, let me know. Just an update...It is now the end of September and I have gotten almost another 2 months out of my toner cartridges and we're still cruising along! I have not lost any print guality at all. I'll see if we can go another month. It's highway robbery what Brother (and I'm sure other manufacturers) are doing to consumers. What a scam! Just an update...It is now the end of September and I have gotten almost another 2 months out of my toner cartridges and we're still cruising along! I have not lost any print guality at all. I'll see if we can go another month. It's highway robbery what Brother (and I'm sure other manufacturers) are doing to consumers. What a scam! That's sweet SingingCowgirl... but I like to know if there is a solution for the MFC-7840W. Feel free to say 'No'. As long as I know, because I will have to order one sooner rather than later. Thanks. This totally works for the HL 4070CDW unit. Black tape did nothing. For the toner life reset menu: 1 Open the front cover of the printer2 press and hold the cancel button3 press the reprint button while still holding cancel- here is the reset menu - go to the appropriate cartridge on- the menu and reset it and you're done!FYI... Pressing the "Go" button and the up arrow gives you the parts life reset menu (drum, laser, etc.) Nope :(HelloThe first Brother printer that i had was DCP-9040CN and i had no problems with the reset menu and learn a lot of tricks how to do that.But now i have HL-4570CDW and having problems with reset menu. Nothing seems to work with this printer.I tried advise did not work, on amazon reviews smb suggest to press back+clear button, did not work as well.I'm not sure if Brother company got smarter, because i bought this printer like month ago and nothing seems to work with almost full cartridges :(((What a waste to buy new ones and spent about 300\$, when you have half full cartridges in it.Did smb have the same problems with this specific model? Any advise will be appreciated. Thanks in advance No. This doesn't work for MFC-7840W. AGAIN!!THIS IS THE THIRD (FOURTH?) RESET IN TWO YEARS USING THE 45700WNER METHOD ABOVE FOR MY 3070. THANK YOU ONE AND ALL FOR A WONDERFUL THREAD.I DO NOT WISH BROTHER BAD BUT THEY REALLY SHOULD STEP UP TO THE PLATE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR SINS. I have a MFC 7860DW and it is saying replace toner. How do I over ride this? Hello, I have a Brother HL-5340D, I need the steps to reset laser and fuser. It has 87.000 prints and the max is 100.000. Please help me! Thank you! Hello, I have a Brother HL-5340D, I need the steps to reset laser and fuser. It has 87.000 prints and the max is 100.000. Please help me! Thank you! Hi, Does anyone know how to override the replace toner message for brother MFC-8370DN ? Any help on locating the sensors? Thanks Does the tape or the reset work for the HL-4150cdn? I see that it works well for the HL-3070cd. Any help with this would be appreciated as it will influence my decision to buy the printer. Does the tape or the reset work for the HL-4150cdn? I see that it works well for the HL-3070cd. Any help with this would be appreciated as it will influence my decision to buy the printer. Does the tape or the reset work for the HL-4150cdn? I see that it works well for the HL-3070cd. Any help with this would be appreciated as it will influence my decision to buy the printer. Yes! Yes! This worked great on my Brother HL-2170W. I had tape over the windows ever since it said it toner was low and that was working and then suddenly it didn't print at all, no message, no print job. Anyhow, there are three screws on the gear side that I removed and then I bent the tab inside of the white gear to remove it which let me reset the lever to the middle it's range. Yay! Print job done! Thank you so much :) work in an office and just replaced the toner not even a month ago. my Brother MFC-7840W informed me that the toner ended. thinking there was no way that was possible, i did some research and found this thread.the electrical tape worked!!thank you very much i did not want to ask my boss for another toner cartridge. Somewhere on this page, someone said the electrical tape trick does not work on the Brother 7340/TN-360. It worked fine for me. I put the tape on when the "low toner" warning started - BEFORE "toner life end" popped up. Prior to learning of this trick, the toner cartridges were good for about 2200-2300 pages. I'm at 3200 and counting with the tape in place, and there's still no difference in print quality. Between buying toner from Amazon (rather than in-store at Staples) and the tape, I figure I've cut my printing cost by at least half. Does the black tape work for the MFC-7360N. Cartridge # TN420. If so where are the holes as I have not been able to find them. Thanks I don't know much English but I wish to share a perfect trick. I have a Brother printer MFC-9840CDW. All toners were indicated OUT and needed to be replaced 6 months ago. I then read the tricks from this forum, I taped all "sensor eyes" with black tapes and I printed almost 1000 pages more in black!! (I didn't use color in order to save color toners). Thank you everyone. Last week all toners were indicated OUT again and this time, I can only use Copy function in black. I couldn't receive Fax nor Print from computer (although, I knew for sure all of color toners are not empty because I only printed about 100 pages in color since I bought the printer). I thought that I need to buy all 4 toners this time and the cost will be equaled to a brand new color printer!! I wanted to scrap the printer. Luckily, I found a new trick from YouTube which is linked below. What I need to do was to open the toner and to reset the GEAR inside. The task took me less than 5 minute to reset 1 toner. Now I can print in black & colors. Thanks to the poster. When I opened a gear inside a toner, I found out the gear is moved by a spring and it has a stopper. The gear will stop after a cycle of 360 degrees, regardless of using its ink/toner inside or not. That means the toner is counted by pages or by each time I used, not by ink. This may explain why this time the black tapes didn't work. I don't want to hurt Brother's business by modifying printer toners, but after I reset all gears from toners, all toners are working perfectly. That means Brother's gearing system in toners didn't use up my ink/toner, waste my money, and fill up more garbage. I think it's fair to modify the toners to use up our money. I hope this trick will work with other GEARRING models as well. Here is the link, or search YouTube for "How to Reset TN-110 Toner Cartridge and Double Toner life - YouTube" Hey, Hope your all well today, I am wondering if I can do the same thing with my Epson 600 WorkForce printer. It also sayes it's out of ink. Incredible... So sick of Cons. Thanks for any help you can provide. I have a Brother MFC 7220, it wouldn't print, said Toner Life End. I took the toner cartridge out and covered the sensor windows on either side with a bit of scotch tape. Perfect!! Works just fine now, and now noticeable difference in quality. Thanks!! Hi, Another fix/money savings to low toner messages for the HL-3070 Brother. Go to Printer Properties and change the color from Auto to Monochrome. Hit "Apply" then "OK"This basically overrides the color toners and forces just the black toner to be used. So if you just need to print black and white copies, you'll save money on not having to buy the color ones over and over again. You may have to go into Printer Properties several times to finally get it to keep the setting on Monochrome, but usually once it sticks, it sticks! Mary Another FYI...For Windows 7 users to override color and change to Monochrome (black and white). Click on "Start." Click on "Devices and Printers." Scroll down to Printer and Faxes and Right click with your mouse on your printer icon. This will give you options to choose from. Choose "Printer Preferences" and choose your printer from the selection. Then you'll get a new window and over on the right side of window there's a selection of COLOR/MONO.Pick "MONOCHROME" from selection drop down.Click on "APPLY" and then Click on "OK."I had to do this a few times while trying to print because the software seems to want to automatically pick Auto Color and override Monochrome. I've printed several pages and so far the Monochrome setting is staying and printing everything in black and white. Now, I'm not getting the warning alarms on my printer or computer screen, and I'm able to print! hope this helps! Brother HL-2140Already did the sensor override months ago, that worked fine, until recently my printer stopped printed due to "toner life end." Tried resetting the Hold the go button, press it twice, press it 5 times.. etcThat still didn't work. I was so frustrated today, I just shook my toner from side to side and kept sliding the clean drum unit, re-inserted my toner and now it works BROTHER HL-3070CWJust updated the driver from the site. Claims to stop all this low usage erroneous "toner life end" etc. Since then the toner fades at the right hand side of the page. Just a coincidence? If so can does anyone have a correction for this? I cleaned off the rollers, did the drum cleaner function, shook the cartridge but soon this fade came back. Did it again and so far so good but for how long? Any insight? Next step reinstall the old drives to see what happens. This is an almost new toner placed before I found this post. Thanx to open the front cover of MFC-9120CN the machine has to be unplugged and off, i could not open the cover where all the colors are unless i shut off the machine!! can you explain more, i might of missed something, i can't reset the counter in in this machine thank you Whoever thought of the masking tape is a genius. We out it over the drum and are not printing perfectly. Thank God!!! How can I thank you for getting my printer going again? THANK YOU. I covered the window, and am in business again. has anyone found anything that works for the MFC-7360N? there is no "reprint" button so i tried the cancel and several possible combos but so far nothing has worked. the weird thing is that i have two of these printers and one is at the "no toner left/ replace now" stage and the other is at the "toner low" stage. i tried switching the cartridges because the one i needed more was out. it is not recognizing that the cartridge is different at all. it still says "no toner left/replace now"can anyone help? thank you all. I bought a HL-2170W, and about a month or two ago it finally had the toner light on. Today, it simply refused to print. After troubleshooting forever, it turns out it was giving the "toner end life" signal, but Windows/etc wasn't catching it. Popped the cover, pulled it out, covered the non-gear side with scotch tape and colored it in with a permanent marker. No toner light, no warning, and it printed the gueued documents as soon as I snapped the cover back. Thank you so much! i have a brother HL-4150CDN and haven't seen anything on here on how to override the 'change cartridge' message...does anyone know how Those cartridges have a reset flag. If you wait until the "change cartridge" message comes on, you will have to reset the flag (so the machine recognizes that you changed the toner) AND cover the toner "eye". If you are using the toner that came with the machine, then there is no reset flag on that cartridge. It was left out intentionally by Brother. You will have to either source a reset flag for your cartridge or purchase a new toner, remove that flag to use to reset your original cartridge which will allow you to use the rest of the toner in that cartridge. Those cartridges have a reset flag. If you wait until the "change cartridge" message comes on, you will have to reset the flag (so the machine recognizes that you changed the toner "eye". If you are using the toner that came with the machine, then there is no reset flag on that cartridge. It was left out intentionally by Brother. You will have to either source a reset flag for your cartridge or purchase a new toner, remove that flag to use to reset your original cartridge which will allow you to use the rest of the toner in that cartridge. I followed the instructions pasted below (thanks Rex) for my Brother HL-3040CN and it wasn't working. Then I tried opening the top cover all the way and it worked fine. Oops. This forum is so important, it's highway robbery when we have to pay for new toner when we could still print hundreds more pages!Lee(instructions quoted below)Yes -- you open the top cover and then hit Cancel and Secure Print at the same time. This brings up the toner cartridge menu. You can scroll up and down through the 4 cartridges (2 entries per color for some reason) and Press OK twice for each entry. The printer will briefly show Accepted for each reset. I ordered cartridgeworld a couple of compatible print cartridges for my printer. I was sent two refilled cartridges that work great according to my needs. They advertised me as refilled carts. This web site www.cartridgeworld.us is very useful you can visit this to choose the product of your need. I strongly recommend this to all of you. I have an MFC-410CN and kept getting low toner messages even with new cartridges. I tried the stick, but couldnt find the holes referred to. However on another site I found the below which worked for me.power off, remove all carts, power on, reinsert carts, say yes to questionsWhat I did was install the new cartridges one at a time and hallelujah..it worked! I have a MFC-7840W that the tape trick worked for. I hadn't realized the first time I tried that I had to put in a cartridge that hasn't "expired" to reset the printer to thinking the leveler wasn't done, then put the taped cartridge back in. So it's working BUT ALL THE PAGES COME OUT DIRTY, DARK, AND STREAKY. It looks like a really bad blotchy ditto machine. Remember those with the blue ditto ink. What to do? I tried the electrician tape on a 9320CW to put the tape on the cartridge window and after on the printer lense and it didn't work. Is there an other trick? BROTHER HD-4570CDW Low Toner Light over-ride. When replacing toner cartridges cover toner 'windows' with black tape to prevent toner messages appearing at all. If

they do appear do the following to extend toner life:• Open front cover as if to replace toner cartridge.• Cover open message will appear on screen.• Press 'Cancel' and 'Secure' buttons simultaneously.• Toner Reset menu appears.• Press down arrow until you reach the colour toner displaying low toner warning. Press 'OK' then up arrow to accept – 'Accepted' message appears. Close cover message will appear on screen. Repeat steps to reset each toner colour.NB: Ensure you replace the toner when print quality depletes to ensure the drum is not damaged. For the 7360N and probably some others, you can actually override via the advanced settings. In the 7360N you:1) Go into Menu2) Select Tonger (#8)4) Switch to "Continue" from "Stop" (as in continue when the toner is low rather than stop)It will keep going until the toner is totally out, rather than just "low". Brother 2270DW: the web-based solution worked for me. I accessed the control panel and set the the value of "Replace Toner" to "Continue". We have had problems with cartridges TN-310 for the MFC-9970CDW not being empty OR buying a new, sealed, Brother brand cartridge and not having it recognized. Brother was very helpful with the reset instructions at the Help Centre. To reset the printer so it recognizes cartridges: 1. Open the cover, Press #1 (on the keypad beside the FAX/SCAN/COPY buttons) 2. On the screen, select K.TNR STD to reset the Black, M.TNR STD (magenta) C.TNR STD (cyan) Y.TNR STD (yellow) Then close the cover and the printer should warm up again. This made the warning on my printer go away. I just did this so I don't know how long the fix will work. I also don't know what the other options on that menu do so if anyone can advise, please post what they do.3. To get a detailed report on usage, this was helpful to know. On the menu button, and on the keypad, hit "* 2 8 6 4" and after a second, a new menu should pop up... press "7 7" and then a 1page report should print with your detailed use and stats for coverage, page count, etc. More details that the normal reports. Press "9 9" to exit this menu and back to the main screen. I don't know what else that menu accesses or what other reports it can generate. I hope someone else finds this useful... I had been very frustrated with the amount of toner we were having to buy but I'm hoping this will slow down the warning and replacement errors that pop up. We have had problems with cartridges TN-310 for the MFC-9970CDW not being empty OR buying a new, sealed, Brother brand cartridge and not having it recognized. Brother was very helpful with the reset instructions at the Help Centre. To reset the printer so it recognizes cartridges: 1. Open the cover, Press #1 (on the keypad beside the FAX/SCAN/COPY buttons) 2. On the screen, select K.TNR STD to reset the Black, M.TNR STD (magenta) C.TNR STD (cyan) Y.TNR STD (yellow) Then close the cover and the printer should warm up again. This made the warning on my printer go away. I just did this so I don't know how long the fix will work. I also don't know what the other options on that menu do so if anyone can advise, please post what they do.3. To get a detailed report on usage, this was helpful to know. On the main touchpad screen, hit the menu button, and on the keypad, hit "* 2 8 6 4" and after a second, a new menu should pop up... press "7 7" and then a 1page report should print with your detailed use and stats for coverage, page count, etc. More details that the normal reports. Press "9 9" to exit this menu and back to the main screen. I don't know what else that menu accesses or what other reports it can generate. I hope someone else finds this useful... I had been very frustrated with the amount of toner we were having to buy but I'm hoping this will slow down the sensor on the TN 420 cartridge to block it for an extended life span of the cartridge? how do I find the sensor on the TN 420 cartridge to block it for an extended life span of the cartridge? a LOT of cartridges now a days have chips to track the number of prints or as they say in the buiz "clicks". These chips tell the printer the status of the cartridge and in many cases whole batches of these chips have issue in to certain cartridges. That said after 10 years of selling toner, I can safely say that in many cases the "compatible" cartridges that cost a lot more. Look for compatible not "reman", or "refilled" cartridges, you could save tons and have a more reliable cartridge! About the only time I recommend compatibles! By chance has anyone found a fix to trick the HL-2240 printer with the TN-450 cartridge? Does anyone know how this cartridge communicates with the system? It seems to be a mechanical lever or switch versus a digital level sensor. If we can figure out if there is a lever that goes from a high to low position, in theory we should be able to secure it in the position, in theory we should be able to secure it in the position. Thx! I would love to help you, but I have looked that cartridge over several times and can find nothing. I have also searched other websites as well. I decided to buy "compatible" TN450 cartridge, the price is well below a Brother cartridge. I read several reviews that said compatible is the way to go. It's not refurbished but simply a new generic cartridge for way less. i have a MFC-7840W and have tried about 30 things ont his web site and my printer still says TOMER LIFE END. anyone with this printer have any ideas. i have even tried 3 diferent NEW cartidges still nothing. have spent 2 day and about 5 hours messing with is thing..HELP As noted from a previous poster, this one works! have a brother mfc 7840wl first used the electrical tape trick and that worked for a while. Then got the toner low message again. I then tried the *00 trick, which works as follows:1. lift lid and open front cover2. press clear/back. "Replace Drum?" will appear on the screen.3. Press "*00" it will then read accepted and the toner low error (End of Toner Life) should go away.4. close it all up and your done. Thanks for all your help guys. Starfish77, on your 1/12/12 posting, you ask what the other menu options do in the MFC-9970CDW. Those options look like this:K.TNR-STD

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