

Regular manual cleaning

Mimaki printers have several onboard features to keep the machines running optimally. Some areas cannot be cared for automatically by the printer. It is important to continue the daily printer maintenance even when the printers are idle. If daily maintenance is not possible, once-a-week maintenance and cleaning will help supplement onboard cleaning routines. For those customers who will not have access to the printer, or are temporarily closing, please see long term storage below.

Capping Station and Wiper Maintenance

The wiper and cap surfaces are the most critical cleaning systems in the printer. These items are responsible for maintaining and cleaning the print head surface. Keep these areas clean and free of debris or ink buildup.

Running Test Prints

Running a weekly test print will help us identify any potential errors before they become significant problems. If you can inspect a weekly test print, please report any unusual output to your Mimaki Dealer or contact us directly at 888-530-3992.

Mimaki Cutting Plotters and Print/Cut units

Mimaki cutting products require very little maintenance. These machines can be safely turned off and unplugged for long periods.

The cutting heads on our print/cut machines also require little to no maintenance. Please follow our other guidelines to maintain the print heads on these units.

Enabling Automated Cleaning

The automated cleaning functions on Mimaki products are all enabled out of the box. The printers maintain the print head surface, ink discharge path, and recirculation systems according to internal schedules. This maximizes both production quality and print head life.

Long Storage for UV Printers

1. Leave the printer plugged in and ensure the main power switch is on. The onboard automated cleaning cycles will maintain the printer and print heads during prolonged downtime.
2. Check the expiration dates on the ink supply system. Mimaki printers will operate normally with inks that are 30 days past expiration. Beyond this point, the expired ink may limit the effectiveness of the automated cleaning functions.
3. Check the ink levels. The onboard cleaning and refresh functions may not operate correctly if the ink levels are below 10%. Insert a new cartridge if levels are low. The nearly empty cartridge can be reinstalled and used to completion at a later date.
4. If the printer is to be powered down completely, perform a nozzle wash and set the timer to 1 minute. After the head carriage is on the cleaning station and the timer starts, turn off the printer using the main power switch. Leave the printer in this condition until normal business operations resume. Please check the waste ink tank level. Empty and reset the waste ink counter if needed. Automated maintenance routines will not operate correctly if the waste ink tank is full.
5. In addition to the recommendations above, UV printers should be covered or kept away from direct sunlight if long term, unattended storage is required.

Long Storage for Solvent Printers

1. Leave the printer plugged in and ensure the main power switch is on. The onboard automated cleaning cycles will maintain the printer and print heads during prolonged downtime.
2. Check the expiration dates on the ink supply system. Mimaki printers will operate normally with inks that are 30 days past expiration. Beyond this point, the expired ink may limit the effectiveness of the automated cleaning functions.
3. Check the ink levels. The onboard cleaning and refresh functions may not operate correctly if the ink levels are below 10%. Insert a new cartridge if levels are low. The nearly empty cartridge can be reinstalled and used at a later date.
4. If the printer is going to be powered down completely, perform a nozzle wash and set the timer to 1 minute. Add the appropriate cleaning solution to the caps. After the head carriage is on the cleaning station and the timer starts, power off the printer using the main power switch. Leave the printer in this condition until normal business operations resume.
5. Please check the waste ink tank level. Empty and reset the waste ink counter if needed. Automated maintenance routines will not operate correctly if the waste ink tank is full.

Long Storage for Water-Based Printers

1. Leave the printer plugged in and ensure the main power switch is on. The onboard automated cleaning cycles will maintain the printer and print heads during prolonged downtime.
2. Check the expiration dates on the ink supply system. Mimaki printers will operate normally with inks that are 30 days past expiration. Beyond this point, the expired ink may limit the effectiveness of the automated cleaning functions.
3. Check the ink levels. The onboard cleaning and refresh functions may not operate correctly if the ink levels are below 10%. Insert a new cartridge if levels are low. The nearly empty cartridge can be reinstalled and used at a later date.
4. If the printer is going to be powered down completely, perform a nozzle wash and set the timer to 1 minute. Add the appropriate cleaning solution to the caps. After the head carriage is on the cleaning station and the timer starts, power off the printer using the main power switch. Leave the printer in this condition until normal business operations resume.
5. Please check the waste ink tank level. Empty and reset the waste ink counter if needed. Automated maintenance routines will not operate correctly if the waste ink tank is full.