

# Better Buys for Business

# TOSHIBA

**Toshiba e-STUDIO 520**  
**Toshiba e-STUDIO 520T**  
**Toshiba e-STUDIO 600**  
**Toshiba e-STUDIO 600T**  
**Toshiba e-STUDIO 720**  
**Toshiba e-STUDIO 720T**  
**Toshiba e-STUDIO 850**

*52ppm, 60ppm, 72ppm & 85ppm/digital*



***Sum-up: Well-designed digital models with Toshiba's very strong multifunctional technology.***

A key feature of these machines (the e-STUDIO 520, 600, 720, and 850) is their advanced multifunctional architecture. Called e-Bridge, this is an integrated controller architecture under which the print controller is built directly into the machine. As a result, the copier's operating system runs all of the machine's functions — copy, print, and scan. This type of design improves multifunctional performance and lowers manufacturing costs.

Note that the 520T, 600T, and 720T are exactly the same in price and features as their counterparts—the 520, 600, and 720—except that they have a different standard input tray configuration.

**Innovative features:** The list of solid features is not limited to the models' multifunctional architecture alone. For example, the machines have something Toshiba calls e-FILING. This feature is a highly developed system for storing scanned hard-copy documents, faxes, and print files using the 64GB hard drive inside the copiers. Users are able to store the images in a series of up to 200 individual software mailboxes, each of which contains 100 folders. Up to 1,000 documents can be held in each folder. The mailboxes can be used for on-demand applications involving the storage of forms and manuals, as well as merging scanned hard copy and print files from your PC.

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Another important feature is the advanced touchscreen control panel. It is very large in size (one-half VGA) and uses a well-designed series of menus and prompts for programming jobs.

**Paper handling:** These machines are identical to each other except for price and speed, and offer the same optional accessories. The standard paper supply for the 520, 600, 720, and 850, is based on four 500-sheet paper trays and a 100-sheet bypass. For the 520T, 600T, and 720T, you start with two 500-sheet trays and one 2,500-sheet stacker as well as the 100-sheet bypass. A 4,000-sheet large-capacity tray is available for all the models as a \$2,095 option. The machines come standard with stackless duplexing.

The standard 100-sheet-capacity document feeder runs at 71ppm, faster than rated engine speed on the 520 and 600, just short of engine speed on the 720, and 14ppm slower than the output speed on the 850. That should not be a problem, however, unless you are making lots of one-off copies of long documents, which is unlikely. Most 80ppm+ copiers scan more slowly than they print.

The list of output devices offers a choice between three optional finishers, all of which have dual 2,000-sheet output trays and feature multiposition stapling. The base finisher comes with 50-sheet stapling, the midrange finisher adds a booklet maker with sad-



*Toshiba e-STUDIO 850 — Toshiba combines very good paper handling and excellent usability features in this model.*

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## EDITOR'S CHOICE 2007

**Editor's  
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dlestitcher, and the advanced finisher includes the booklet maker and offers 100-sheet stapling. All of the finishers include optional two- and three-hole punch, and they are also compatible with an optional postprocess inserter. The device consists of a single tray that holds up to 100 sheets. This allows you to insert preprinted covers on a document, as well as preprinted (but different) chapter inserts, all bypassing the potentially damaging heat of the copier's fuser.

**Digital features:** The machines have the usual complement of digital features, including scan-once/print-many copying, signature booklet mode, image combination, image rotation, and an anamorphic zoom range of 25–400%. Interestingly, copies are scanned at 600dpi and output at an interpolated resolution of 600 x 2,400dpi.

When it comes to copy mode concurrency, the models are able to scan up to 10 additional copy jobs while the machine is busy either printing or copying a job.

**Connectivity:** Toshiba's e-Bridge controller puts the company on equal footing with competitors such as Canon, Panasonic, Ricoh, and Sharp, all of which use integrated controllers. At the heart of the e-Bridge controller is a 600MHz processor. This is supported with 256MB of RAM and a 64MB page buffer.

When users upgrade any of the models, they buy a special USB key that unlocks functionality that is already resident in the machines. The print function lists for \$2,895 and includes PCL 6 and PostScript 3. Ethernet comes standard on the models and is not part of the upgrade.

The scanning upgrade works in the same manner. For a list price of \$2,195, you get scanning (including scan-to-email) enabled on the machines. Toshiba also offers a print/scan option that lists for \$4,595. The scanning function supports LDAP address book integration and network authentication.

The optional fax upgrade follows a more traditional approach. It consists of a separate board that adds a 33.6kbps modem with JBIG compression. In other words, fax capability is not already resident in the machines. However, unlike some integrated systems, the fax function uses memory partitioned on the e-Bridge controller hard drive. The upgrade lists for \$1,025, and for another \$620 you can add a second fax line.

**Conclusion:** This series has a nice blend of features and technology. While it is definitely worth checking out, keep in mind that there are lots of good machines to choose from, some of which are more reasonably priced. We give the Editor's Choice Award to the excellent e-STUDIO 850, but consider all the models quite good.

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