# [testing, testing]

## PRINTERS                    p56

Fifteen printers in a small room furiously printing the same thing over and again – they're surprisingly loud, working away in unison.

Staying in that room to constantly restock the paper is one of the less glamorous parts of our job. It's dangerous work, too – we printed a total of 81,920 pages and sustained three paper cuts. But we bore the boredom and pain, and went through this pile of 150 cartridges to find the cheapest printers to run.

There are big differences; some printers cost twice as much as others to run. Our previous tests have shown that Lexmark makes the most costly printers – its P915 model uses £1.92 of ink per A4 photograph.

There's a fun part as well, though: watching the technology progress with each report. We use various printouts – highly detailed photographs, magazine pages and black-text pages – to push the printers to their limits. This year, we were amazed by the improvement in photographic quality from the laser printers. They still don't give the realistic colours turned out by inkjet printers, but they're fast approaching it.