

Internet Fax Service Review



FAX



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1 Abstract

The purpose of this review is to compare and organize information about the top five e-fax services (also known as internet fax). This service utilizes the internet to send and receive faxes and requires a computer instead of a fax machine. When your company switches to e-fax, you'll likely post sizeable savings.

Every company we review on this site has a free 30-day trial so you can see how each provider operates before you commit. To assist with your decision we've provided a comparison chart, detailing the features of each provider.

2 Why Use e-Fax?

There are a number of reasons why a company would want to switch to e-fax. Advantages include:

1. No peripheral hardware or software needed
2. Does not require an extra telephone line
3. Can be integrated with email
4. May send and receive multiple faxes at the same time
5. Costs less than traditional faxing
6. May send and receive from anywhere that has internet access, including mobile phones and tablets.

Due to the limitations of the technology, there is no technical advantage to using a traditional fax machine. Switching to e-fax enables additional capabilities at a lower cost, and your company can relieve itself of hardware. When sending long faxes (such as overseas or distant offices), your company will likely record a dramatic reduction in cost as there are no telephone charges.

E-fax differs from IP fax in that IP fax is used to transmit over an office's intranet from a networked multifunctional device.

3 Standard Features of e-Fax Services

The core feature of all e-fax services is being able to communicate without a fax machine. Most providers are able to facilitate sending via email and virtually every company we reviewed will give you a personal fax number and a free trial.

The highlight of e-fax is the price. Expect to pay no more than \$13/mo for a basic package, though if your company needs to send or receive thousands each month you will pay a little more.

Some providers offer features such as digital signatures and searchable faxes, though these are more advanced and not as common.

3.1 COMPARISON

3.1.1 eFax

Pros

Been in business since 1997 and delivered over 1 billion faxes. Can choose a number in virtually any city

Cons

Would be nice to get more pages for what you pay for each month.

Conclusion

eFax is the world's leading online fax service and for good reason - the company provides a great service. \$12.95/mo will allow your business to send or receive up to 150 pages (adequate for most businesses), though this is a little pricey compared to some of the competition.

With a free 30-day trial and unlimited storage, not to mention the new mobile app, we can't imagine why you wouldn't give this company a go, unless price is the bottom line for you.

3.1.2 eXtremeFax

Pros

Priced very reasonably, offers numbers in over 4300 cities.

Cons

Not as many features as other providers, notably eFax.

Conclusion

eXtremeFax is one of the best choices for the individual who wants to send faxes on a budget. \$6.67/mo will allow you to send 500 pages while \$14.99/mo will let you send 1200 pages a month (6.7 cents and 2.9 cents for additional pages, respectfully). These prices are for the annual plan, which is discounted compared to month-to-month payments.

With eXtremeFax you will be able to send and receive faxes by email and receive alerts on your cell. If you're on a budget, this is the second cheapest company we reviewed herein.

3.1.3 MetroFax

Pros

Extremely reasonable price, loads of features

Cons

None

Conclusion

This is an excellent service, offering a plethora of features at a low price. With Stanford University, Marriott, and Allstate all signed on as clients, utilizing this provider is highly recommended. With a mobile app and more features than can fit on our comparison chart, this is the e-fax service to use.

3.1.4 MyFax

Pros

Allows previewing of fax before sending and allows you to create a blocked and allow list to prevent abuse (i.e. black fax attacks)

Cons

Send and receive aren't combined together in the plan, limited features compared to other providers at an increased price.

Conclusion

While MyFax offers a good service, the unfortunate part about it the cost to value ratio. With limited features in comparison to other providers, not to mention that \$10/mo gets you far more than a total of 300 pages with other providers, there are other companies you may want to gravitate toward.

3.1.5 Nextiva

Pros

Unbeatable value

Cons

Limited features and only 6 months of online fax storage

Conclusion

The bottom line about Nextiva is the price. At only \$4.95/mo, when you pay annually you literally cannot beat the price this company offers. If you don't need features like digital signatures or a mobile app (you can still send faxes with your mobile phone via email), Nextiva is definitely a company to try.

4 eFax Comparison Chart

	eFax	eXtremeFax	MetroFax	MyFax	Nextiva
Digital Signatures	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Searchable Faxes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Mobile Apps	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Unlimited Storage	Yes	Yes	1 year	1 year	6 months
Cost	\$12.95/mo	\$6.67/mo	\$7.95/mo	\$9.17/mo	\$4.95/mo
Pages/mo	150	500	500	Send 100, receive 200	500
Personal Fax Number	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Free Trial	30 days	30 days	30 days	30 days	30 Days