

C32 style COPY CARTRIDGES... A peek ahead...

Xerox models C32, C40, Pro32, Pro40, WC M24, Docucolor 1532, 2240... How to service the Copy / Drum Cartridges.

Well, I just returned from a vacation in Ireland! It was excellent to not see any office equipment for a little while... plenty of cows, but not a copier to be seen. Coming back I find myself looking for something good to write about. This article will cover what we know so far about a relatively new series of machine... the C32 style. These are full color dry ink multi function machines. It appears to be quite nice and is likely to proliferate with even more model numbers before they move on to new designs.

So... its early but I think this will become a common member of your household of machines eventually.

So far, I've not seen any of the Copy Cartridge components available in the market, but they will no doubt become available as time goes on.

These machines actually use 4 of these Drum Cartridges... one for each toner color (Black, Cyan, Magenta, & Yellow)... they use the same reorder number for all 4 positions (013R00579). The cartridge comes in a plastic housing which serves only as an installation tool or Holder...when you get it out of its packaging, it'll look like the one shown in Photo #1.

When installing a new cartridge, there is a sticker type of seal which you first remove. Then you lower a metal bar / lever, which disengages the electrical connectors from all 4 drum cartridges. Next you line the cartridge up with the hole where the cartridge will slide in and mount the Holder of the cartridge on the metal bar / lever. Finally you press on a little release latch and slide the cartridge in. (see Photo #2).

Photo #3 shows what the Drum Cartridge looks like naked! Without the holder that is... These cartridges have a drum which rides in metal bearings... the bearings appear to be the place where the drum ground return is made. Then there is a Charge Roller with an adjacent cleaning pad riding on it. There's a drum cleaning blade which has a mylar piece glued onto it which forms a row of teeth. These teeth are designed to keep the waste auger located behind the blade from getting clogged. It'll be interesting to see if anyone will come up with a replacement blade and whether it will include the plastic mylar saw toothed piece. Near the front of the cartridge is nestled a familiar looking Connector (or CRUM as Xerox likes to call it) which will no doubt need to be repaired or replaced if the cartridge times out or if the cartridge is serviced (see Photo #4). That Connector isn't out there yet, but probably will be as time goes on.

Following is a quick Procedure for disassembling one of these cartridges...



Photo #1: Cartridge in its "Holder"



Photo #2: Releasing the cartridge from its Holder

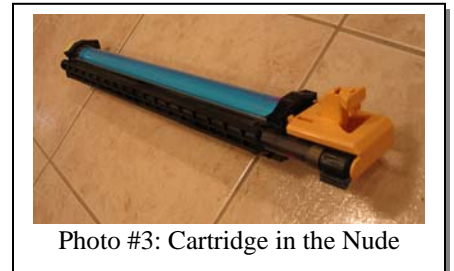


Photo #3: Cartridge in the Nude

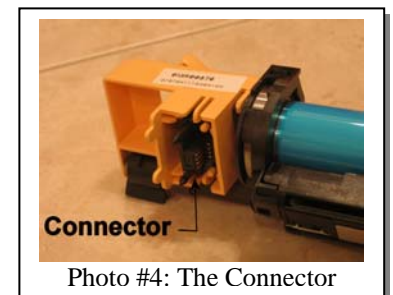


Photo #4: The Connector

1.) Remove the Connector from under the front end cap (it is clipped in from the sides). If the Drum Count is up, it will be necessary to replace this Connector with a new one (when they become available).

2.) Remove the Drum Assembly... this is done by first releasing the clips from the front and rear bearing retainers and removing the retainers (see Photo #5). Then the Drum Assembly can be lifted out of the cartridge's frame. The Drum Assembly is the Drum with its bearings and the large white gear at the end (see Photo #6).

3.) Remove the Charge Roller Assembly... I found this to be a little tricky... It turns out that if you pry the Charge Assembly away from the rear end just a little bit, you can then slide the end sideways to unseat it. The front end works similarly. (See Photo #7) The Charge Roller itself will fall easily out of the assembly at this point so take care... Don't touch the Charge Roll's surface as finger prints can cause print defects .

4.) With the Charge Roll Assembly off of the cartridge, you can now access the two screws which hold the Cleaning Blade in place. Take a careful note of exactly how the blade is seated before you remove the screws as there is some room for it to move around... you might consider marking the position of the blade first. Photo #8 shows the blade with its mylar saw toothed piece attached.

That is all I've got for you this month... I'll have to pick up a Service Manual and read up on this series sometime in the near future as I suspect this will be a popular bunch of machines. When I do, I'll get you some info on the machine itself.

Britt works for The Parts Drop, a company whose primary business is providing parts, supplies and information for Xerox brand copiers, printers and fax machines. You can find more information on their website www.partsdrop.com. There's a complete listing of past articles under contributing writers on the ENX website (www.ENXMAG.com) if you'd like to read more about Xerox brand office equipment.



Photo #5: Releasing the front Bearing Retaining Clip...



Photo #6: Drum Assembly.

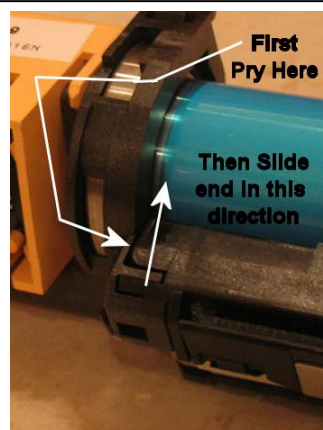


Photo #7: Removing the Charge Roll Assembly



Photo #8: Drum Blade shown with the Saw Toothed mylar piece.