

Traditional fax machines and Internet faxing

In 1843, Scottish inventor Alexander Bain received the first patent for the fax machine. Short for facsimile machine, Bain's invention worked by scanning a flat metal surface with a stylus mounted on a pendulum. The stylus picked up images from the metal surface and reproduced writing on an electrically conductive surface. Several people made modifications in Bain's invention and took part in inventing the fax machine we have today. Elisha Gray, Arthur Korn, and Edouard Beeline are among the inventors who have contributed to what the fax machine has become.

It took almost 140 years for the fax machine to become an everyday appliance. Several companies tried to develop the fax machine, including Xerox, the company that made significant innovations to the fax machine in 1966. It introduced a smaller version that works by sending transmissions over existing phone lines, enabling documents to be sent from one fax machine to another in about six minutes. Back then, it represented a significant step toward improving long-range communications. For several years however, the fax machine was costly and was difficult to operate. These difficulties were probably the reason why the fax machine was never used in the business sector prior to the 1980s.

Today's fax machine usually consists of an image scanner, a modem, and a printer rolled together in one contraption. The scanner converts the printed content on a physical document into a digital image and the modem works by sending the image data over a phone line to another device. The printer at the receiving end produces a copy of the sent document. Fax documents nowadays usually require five to ten seconds to transmit one page.

The introduction of the Internet in the 1970s took faxing to greater heights. The Internet has introduced cost-effective faxing for business owners and other individuals. Online faxing is proving to be efficient and productive in the business sector. Internet faxing has allowed individuals to receive faxes through e-mails, mobile phones, hand-held organizers, and PDAs. Internet faxing has solved the dilemma of jammed papers, expensive inks and toners, and other problems consumers encountered while using traditional fax machines.

To avail of Internet faxing services, an individual simply has to sign up with an Internet fax service provider, such as Freeifax. Freeifax is one of the fastest-growing providers of Internet messaging and boasts of thousands of satisfied consumers around the world. Signing up with Freeifax enables consumers to gain access to online faxes.

By signing up, freeifax will provide consumers a control panel ability that allows them to check incoming and outgoing fax messages. This Internet faxing service does not require additional devices to function properly, eliminating the need for a bulky machine and cables. These messages are accessible to most parts of the world, provided there is a working Internet connection. These messages are confidential and can only be accessed by specific recipients, therefore maintaining confidentiality and security of messages.

Freeifax offers consumers all the conveniences without paying monthly fees. Packages include free unlimited faxes for only 2.5 cents per send. A minimum reload of \$5 is required to keep an account active. These accounts come with free and unlimited incoming messages.

People who use fax machines daily grow accustomed to the flaws that they encounter. Internet faxing has become a wonderful feature on the web for businesses and many individuals due to the reduction of those flaws. This service has bridged the gap of traditional fax machines and web-based communication. It has enabled consumers to save time and money, making their time more effective and efficient. To know more about Freeifax Internet faxing services visit www.freeifax.com.

About the Author

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