Tech Info Library

LaserWriter IIsc: How It Handles Fonts

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Four times (4X) fonts are provided for the LaserWriter IIsc so the resolution image created in the off-screen bit-map by the LaserWriter IIsc driver will correspond to the resolution of the printer. Because these fonts are bit-mapped fonts, they can be printed directly from the Macintosh screen to the LaserWriter IIsc. Any intrinsic font (a font whose characteristics are entirely defined by a font resource) can be used by the LaserWriter IIsc without modification.

Because the full set of LaserWriter IIsc fonts requires 1.5 megabytes of storage, only the plain intrinsic fonts are included. Sources of additional fonts will be third party developers, shareware, etc. Or you can create your own fonts by using a third party program such as FONTastic by AltSys.

The five style selections (bold, italic, underline, outline, shadow) can easily be derived by QuickDraw. QuickDraw uses an algorithm to derive the desired style if the intrinsic font is not available. The information necessary for calculating a specific style is stored in the font family record, FOND.

The LaserWriter IIsc driver requests a scaling factor of 4:1 when intercepting the QuickDraw commands to the Font Manager. If you select a font for which there is not an associated four times (4X) font in the system file, the Font Manager uses an algorithm to find another font that can be scaled ("scaling" refers to the resizing, compression, or expansion of a character by QuickDraw.)

The LaserWriter IIsc does not support font substitution.

For more information, search under: AltSys Corporation

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