

LaserWriter Performance: Color/Gray Scale vs Black & White

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TOPIC -----

Does changing a LaserWriter's default dialogue box from color/gray scale to black and white improve printing performance? Can I use ResEdit to do this, or is there another way to change the default?

DISCUSSION -----

On AppleLink, in the Tech Info Library, you will find a patched version of the LaserWriter 6.0.1 driver that defaults to black and white. Use the search criterion of "LaserWriter 6.z.1".

The LaserWriter 6.0.x drivers, when in "Black & White" mode, print black and white documents as fast or slightly faster than the LaserWriter 5.2 drivers. This is true for both text or graphic documents.

The LaserWriter 6.0.x drivers, when in "Color/Grayscale" mode, are as much as 8 times slower than the LaserWriter 5.2 drivers. Black and white text-only documents will print as if the "Black & White" mode was selected. The "Color/Grayscale" mode should be used only in situations where you are printing documents that are multicolor or gray scale images.

The LaserWriter 6.0.x drivers default to "Color/Grayscale" mode, so you'll have to change the setting every time you print if they want to use "Black & White" mode.

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