

PrintServer and AppleShare 2.01

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TOPIC -----

I am rebuilding an AppleShare network from scratch. I am upgrading many of the files that we had previously used. The file server seems to be working okay but there are a few problems. I have rebuilt with System 6.0.5 (we had previously used 6.0.3), AppleShare 2.01, and Printserver 2.0. The network is running on a Macintosh SE with 2.5MB RAM.

The network starts okay, but has crashed several times. I think most of these crashes are due to system incompatibilities or memory problems in the workstations. The workstations are mostly Macintosh SEs with 1MB. I expected some of the applications (like PixelPaint and Studio/8) to bomb, because of memory, but these have also caused the file server to crash. One user caused a crash by typing a new password. I thought this was due to system incompatibility (he's running 6.0.3 at present), but the documentation for 6.0.5 says it works fine in a network with other systems (specifically 6.0.2, 6.0.3, and 6.0.4).

The biggest problem I am having is with the PrintServer. I installed it, but when I load it and try to connect to a network printer, it times out. (I have tried both printers on the network with the same results. I have also re-installed PrintServer from another set of diskettes.) Then, when you choose to quit the application it bombs the system.

Do you know of any incompatibilities among System 6.0.5, AppleShare 2.01, and PrintServer 2.0? Are there any upgrades I might need? How about the RAM cache, now set for 1MB? Also, does AppleShare get upset with the file server running 6.0.5 and workstations running an earlier version?

DISCUSSION -----

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We don't know of any incompatibilities with the system software and application versions you have listed. In fact, we run similar configurations with no difficulty.

The RAM cache is not changeable by the administrator on an AppleShare server. Rather, AppleShare dynamically allocates RAM to meet its needs. Don't change anything in the RAM cache.

We have two concerns with your configuration:

- Are all your users running the same version of the LaserWriter drivers?
- Was the System software installed using the Installer -- not drag copied?

It is very important that you run the Installer, because this is the only way to get the proper ROM patches loaded into the individual computer's System file.

With your Print Server, you mention that when you load it and try to "connect to a network printer", I have to assume that you are capturing a printer for print spooling services. If that is correct, and it times out, you may want to look at using the 6.0.1 LaserWriter and Laser Prep files as this timeout problem was addressed in those drivers. If you do use these drivers, make sure that all users upgrade and that there are no older drivers present in the network.

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