



Tech Info Library

QuickDraw LaserWriters: Printer Sharing (6/96)

Revised: 6/24/96
Security: Everyone

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TOPIC -----

This discussion focuses on sharing the LaserWriter Select 300, Personal LaserWriter 300, or the LaserWriter LS printers over a network. To share one of these printers, you must use the LaserWriter 300 printer software.

DISCUSSION -----

You must use the LaserWriter 300 printer driver (which includes GrayShare), to share your LaserWriter printer with up to 21 additional computers over an AppleTalk network. There is no limit on how many people choose the printer in the Chooser, but only 21 people can simultaneously print to the printer. Anyone who wants to print to the shared printer needs to install the LaserWriter Select 300 printer driver. To print to a networked printer from a Macintosh using System 6, you must have System 6.0.7 or 6.0.8 installed, and use MultiFinder.

You still retain control of the printer after sharing it because the LaserWriter is connected to your computer. You can turn sharing on or off at any time. You can also use the Print Monitor program to view a list of pending print jobs and delete any jobs from that list.

Your Macintosh connected to the shared LaserWriter slows down when other users print to the shared printer because the computer is actually being used as a spooler. The information is sent from the remote computer to yours, then from your computer to the printer.

Sharing a Printer
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To share a LaserWriter Select 300, Personal LaserWriter 300, or LaserWriter LS with other users, follow these steps:

Step 1:

To share a printer, you must be connected to an AppleTalk network of some type.

LocalTalk Connection

The LocalTalk connector goes into the printer port. The peripheral 8 cable (serial cable) connects the printer to the Macintosh. It needs to go into the modem port.

Ethernet or Token Ring Connection

Since both Ethernet and Token Ring connections do not require you to use a serial port. You can use either the printer or modem port to connect the printer to your Macintosh.

Step 2:

Open the Chooser and select the LaserWriter icon. A list of available printers is displayed.

Step 3:

Click the icon of the port to which your printer is connected. (If you are using the printer port to connect your Macintosh to the network, you must connect your LaserWriter to the modem port.)

Step 4:

Make sure Background Printing is On.

Step 5:

Click the Setup button to open the LaserWriter Sharing Setup dialog box.

Step 6:

Place an X in the Share this Printer checkbox. You may choose to name your printer and to enter a password.

If you type a password for the printer, only users who know the password can use the printer from their computers.

If you want a record of what is printed on your printer, place an X in the Keep Log of Printer Usage checkbox.

Step 7:

Click OK to close the LaserWriter Sharing Setup dialog box and close the Chooser window.

Your LaserWriter is now available to other users on the network.

Printing to a Shared Printer

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To print to a shared LaserWriter Select 300, Personal LaserWriter 300, or LaserWriter LS follow these steps:

Step 1:

Open the Chooser and select the LaserWriter 300 icon. A list of available communications ports and printers is displayed.

Step 2:

Click the name of the shared LaserWriter you want to use. If the printer requires a password, a dialog box appears; type in the password.

Step 3:

You may click the Get Info button to see whether any fonts in your system are unavailable on the shared printer. If your documents use such fonts, printing is slower, because the fonts must be downloaded to the printer.

Step 4:

Close the Chooser.

You are now ready to print to the shared LaserWriter Select 300.

Article Change History:

24 Jun 1996 - Added turn Background Printing on.

21 Feb 1995 - Added keyword; made several technical updates.

12 Dec 1994 - Added System 6 information.

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