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LaserWriter Landscape through AUTOEXEC.BAT

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This article describes how to use the AUTOEXEC.BAT file make it possible for you to choose whether to print landscape or portrait. It assumes you are using a LocalTalk PC card, LaserWriter software, and AppleShare PC (1.1) print drivers, so you can access the printer directly from Lotus 123 and Microsoft Word.

Here is a typical AUTOEXEC.BAT prepared for use with AppleShare:

atalk /mem=7K
\ashare
\aprint
\minses
\redir
\anet auto
\MOUSE1\mouse
\MOUSE\cpanel
@echo off
path=c:\;c:\dos;c:\lwdir;c:\ashare;c:\3270
prompt \$P\$G
lwprint -a postscrp.ini
PATH C:\WINDOWS;c:\;c:\dos;c:\lwdir;c:\ashare;c:\3270

The confusing part about printing Landscape is that it is not a mode. Drivers take the information going to the LaserWriter and massage everything necessary to rotate it on the printed page. The printer never gets set to a Landscape "mode".

To be able to flip between Portrait and Landscape, remove the line that begins with "lwprint" from the .BAT file. Then, use the DA pop-up application that is provided with AppleShare PC to set up the printer.

Using this method, you must print the desired file to a text file. At this point, you have two choices:

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- If you choose to print to the LaserWriter through the Epson emulator (in the DA application), you need Sideways or an equivalent program to rotate the output.
- If you have chosen not to use the emulator, you must use the LWASC-R <filename> command in a batch file. This command is described on page 102 of the "AppleTalk PC Card Manual".

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