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LaserWriter IIf and IIg: Changing Passwords

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TOPIC -----

How do I change passwords on the LaserWriter IIf and IIg?

DISCUSSION -----

Because the LaserWriter IIf and IIg use implementations of Level 2 PostScript, setting their passwords is a bit different from previous models. This is primarily because Level 2 uses two different passwords -- one to secure system parameters, and another to secure use of the startjob operator. You will probably want to change both. This will achieve similar functionality to the Level 1 setpassword operator. Here is sample code to change both passwords:

```
<</Password (0) /StartJobPassword (2)>> setsystemparams  
<</Password (0) /SystemParamsPassword (2)>> setsystemparams
```

In both cases, the string following the /Password name must equal the current SystemParamsPassword. This password is required in order to change either the StartJobPassword or the SystemParamsPassword. Once these two have been redefined, the level of security is identical to that available through the setpassword operator in a Level 1 implementation. The two passwords need not be equal, and can be strings of up to 32 non-null characters. You can use an integer instead (as with Level 1), but internally it will be converted to a string containing the ASCII representations of each digit. Here is a version of the above code that changes both passwords, each to a different integer.

```
<<                                %Push a mark on the stack.  
/Password 0                       %Push key/value pairs for current password,  
/StartJobPassword 2              %the new StartJobPassword, and the new
```

```
/SystemParamsPassword 4 %SystemParamsPassword on the stack.  
>> %Create dictionary of the kv pairs up to mark.  
setsystemparams %Use the dictionary to set system params.
```

Once this is sent, the value 4 or string (4) will be required as a password to change settings.

Level 2 introduces many new concepts to the PostScript world, and a complete discussion of how these work is best left to manuals on the subject. The current reference is available from Addison Wesley as the PostScript Language Reference Manual, 2nd Edition, by Adobe Systems Incorporated.

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