



Tech Info Library

LaserWriter 8 Printer Driver Version 8.1.1 (2/95)

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Security: Everyone

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TOPIC -----

This document contains important information about the LaserWriter 8 printer driver version 8.1.1. The new printer driver is more compatible with Apple printers and non-Apple software than earlier versions of the LaserWriter 8 printer driver.

DISCUSSION -----

Before Installing Printer Driver Software
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Before you install LaserWriter 8 software, check the information below about which files in your System Folder will be replaced with newer versions when you install, and what steps you might want to take to keep or remove files:

If You Use System 6

If you use System 6, you may want to make backup copies of your original PrintMonitor and Backgrounder to use if you need the option of sometimes using an older version of LaserWriter driver. (The Installer automatically replaces your original PrintMonitor and Backgrounder with newer versions.)

Drivers Older Than Version 8.0

The Installer doesn't replace versions of the LaserWriter driver that are older than version 8.0. You may remove printer driver files that are older than version 8.0 from your System Folder if you no longer need them.

Drivers For Versions 8.0 or Later

The Installer does remove earlier versions of the LaserWriter 8 driver (for example, version 8.0) and all Apple PostScript Printer Description (PPD) files.

The Installer Places These Files

For System 6, in your System Folder: LaserWriter 8 (version 8.1.1), PrintMonitor (version 7.0.1), Backgrounder (version 1.3), LaserPrep (version 7.2). The Installer also places PPD files for Apple LaserWriter printers in the Printer Descriptions folder in your System Folder.

For System 7, in the Extensions folder: LaserWriter 8 (version 8.1.1), PrintMonitor (version 7.1). It also installs the latest PPD files for Apple LaserWriter printers in the Printer Descriptions folder in your Extensions folder.

NOTE: Some files on the LaserWriter 8 disks have been compressed (their filenames end with .cmp). You can only install these files with the LaserWriter 8 Installer.

The Installer does not copy the LaserWriter Utility to your computer. You may install the utility by dragging it to your hard disk.

About PPD Files

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The LaserWriter 8 printer driver is shipped with PPD files that contain information about specific features of LaserWriter printer models. These files are in the Printer Descriptions folder. PPD filenames indicate the printer model and its version of PostScript.

To take full advantage of your printer's features, follow these tips:

- Select your printer in the Chooser and click the Setup button.
- Click the Auto Setup button in the Setup dialog box. The correct PPD file for your printer is automatically selected.
- If the driver can't find a PPD file that matches your printer, you will be prompted to select one. You may select the generic PPD file, which will work with all LaserWriter printers.

About Creating EPS Files

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You can create an Encapsulated PostScript (EPS) file in many applications programs by clicking File in the Print dialog box, then clicking Save. When you create an EPS file, note the following:

Creating EPS Files

Creating EPS files with the All option selected in the Font Inclusion pop-up menu in the EPS dialog box can result in very large files. If you include all fonts in an EPS file and save the file with the Unlimited Downloadable Fonts

option selected, an extremely large file may be created.

EPS File With No Fonts

If you create an EPS file with no fonts included and open the document, fonts in the document appear on your screen, but Courier may be substituted when you print.

EPS Files With Preview Information

When creating EPS files with preview information included, applications that create their own PostScript code may not display the EPS file accurately on the screen.

Using the LaserWriter 8 Driver

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When using the LaserWriter 8 driver, you should be aware of the following situations. Some happen with all LaserWriter printers and others happen only with specific models.

All LaserWriters

The LaserWriter 8 driver allows some printers to print using a larger imageable print area on the page. If your printer does so, you may find that text in some documents reflows or is clipped to fit the new imageable area.

If you print using A4 size paper, have chosen Manual Feed as the Paper Source, and have a B5 size paper tray installed in your printer, the page will be clipped to match the B5 paper size.

Printing multiple documents with the Finder may not work if the documents have been created by different application programs.

LaserWriter IIg and IIx

When selecting paper sources from the First From and Remaining From pop-up menus in the Print dialog box, selecting Manual Feed for either source sets the driver to print the first page from the manual feed tray.

Some form-printing applications can't print forms using the Layout settings in the Page Setup dialog box.

LaserWriter IINT and IINTX

If you select both the Smooth Graphics and the Invert Image options in the Page Setup Options dialog box, a PostScript error results.

Don't use the B5 tray to print envelopes on a IINT. Use the Letter tray instead.

LaserWriter Pro 600 and 630

You can't use Auto Select as the Paper Source in the Print dialog box to print envelopes from the optional envelope feeder.

When you are printing at 600 dots per inch (dpi), bitmapped images may appear with lines across the image.

Personal LaserWriter NTR

When you are printing in the background, no message appears when the printer runs out of paper.

LaserWriter Pro 810

With some graphics applications, bitmap graphics will be reduced by 25% in size when Precision Bitmap Alignment is specified.

Using the LaserWriter 8 Driver with the Kanji System

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To print Japanese characters using KanjiTalk or the Japanese Language Kit, your system must have WorldScript II 7.1.1.

Using the LaserWriter 8 Driver with Application Programs

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Some application programs don't yet take advantage of the new features of the LaserWriter 8 driver, or have small incompatibilities that result in printing problems. If you experience problems with a program, contact the publisher of the program. In some cases a newer version of the program may be available.

The following list describes some special cases that you should be aware of when working with some application programs. (There may be other problems with these programs, or with other programs, not mentioned in this document.)

Aldus Freehand 3.11

You can't print using Layout options in the Print dialog box. If you choose a layout from the Layout pop-up menu, the document doesn't print and no error message appears.

EPS files created from within Freehand can't be used in other programs.

Selecting the Unlimited Downloadable Fonts option in the Page Setup Options dialog box results in a PostScript error.

Aldus PageMaker 4.2a

You can't scale EPS images in documents printed using the Layout option in the Page Setup dialog box.

Aldus Personal Press 2.0

Using several font style combinations in text can result in spacing problems.

When working with large EPS files in a document, you may need to increase the amount of memory allocated to the application.

Aldus Persuasion 2.1.2

When you print a document that contains gradient fill patterns, the document is printed with solid patterns instead of gradients.

Documents that contain EPS graphics may not print correctly if you select 2-Up or 4-Up printing.

Aldus SuperPaint 3.0

Rotated or filled polygons print as solid gray objects.

Canvas 3.0.6

Printing with substituted fonts may result in incorrect line layout.

CricketDraw III 1.0

You can't import an EPS file created with the LaserWriter 8 driver that has been saved without preview information.

Be sure that enough space is available on your hard disk when printing large documents; otherwise the application may malfunction.

CricketPresents 2.1

You can't import an EPS file created with the LaserWriter 8 driver that has been saved without preview information.

Informed Manager 1.3.5

Shaded headings in a document may not print correctly.

Some documents will print with extra pages.

MacDraft 2.1

When you print using the Cut Marks option, a PostScript error results.

Microsoft PowerPoint

In PowerPoint version 2.01f, you can't import an EPS file created with the LaserWriter 8 driver that has been saved without preview information.

When importing EPS files, you may want to increase the memory allocated to the application.

Microsoft Works 3.0

Printing documents that have rotated objects with rounded corners results in a PostScript error.

More 3.1

When creating EPS files with the LaserWriter 8 driver, be sure you have enough disk space to hold the file. No Disk Full error message appears when your hard disk becomes full and can't hold the entire file.

Publish It! Easy 2.1.9

Use an earlier version of the driver, or contact the publisher of the application program.

QuarkXPress 3.11

You can't print EPS files created by the LaserWriter 8 driver that contain certain TrueType fonts.

Using Calibrated Color results in a PostScript error.

ReadySetGo! 4.5 and 5.0 (DesignStudio)

Use an earlier version of the driver, or contact the publisher of the application program.

Studio/8 and Studio/32

When creating an EPS file with these programs and the LaserWriter 8.0 driver, you must select the QuickDraw Printer option.

Other Troubleshooting Tips

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Printer Status Dialog Boxes

When you are printing with some application programs, the Printer Status dialog boxes may appear overlapping or misaligned on the screen, preventing you from canceling printing by clicking the Cancel button. Press Command-Period to cancel printing.

Unexpected Format Results

If you see unexpected format results when you print a document, choose Page Setup and check whether the paper size is shown as Other. If so, select the correct paper size.

Utility Programs That Change Your Printer Without The Chooser

Utility programs that attempt to change your current printer without using the Chooser may produce unexpected results.

Cover Page May Not Print

With some graphics applications, the Cover Page may not be printed at the end of a multi-page document. Use Cover Page: Before Document.

Article Change History:

09 Feb 1995 - Removed LaserWriter 8.0 Update Guide and changed format.

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