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LaserWriter NTR: Recommended Parallel Cable Length (10/93)

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Security: Everyone

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TOPIC -----

Using a parallel connection, to any PC, what would be the maximum length of cable allowed?

DISCUSSION -----

The maximum recommended length for a parallel cable is 20 feet. Mixed results will occur for distances greater than this depending on the type of cable (shielded vs. ribbon) used and the quality of the connectors. There are other solutions available.

In the United States there is a company called Black Box that sells a product called PC Parallel Hypercable which allows parallel cables to be extended up to a maximum length of 150 feet. Each cable incorporates an integrated amplifier circuit that boosts signal strength and filters noise. The circuit is powered off of the 5 volt signal that is available on pins 13, 14, 15, or 16 of standard parallel interfaces.

For more information look in the Technical Information Library, using "Black Box" as your search string. Similar information may be available from European companies.

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