PowerBook: Internal Modem & Serial Printer Configuration (4/96)

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TOPIC -----------------------------------------------------------

The PowerBook 150, 200, 500, 2300 series computers have only one serial port.
How do I set up a direct connect serial printer when I have an internal modem
installed? Also, how can I communicate with an AppleTalk network?

DISCUSSION ------------------------------------------------------

The PowerBook 200, 2300 (Duos), and 500 series computers have only one serial
I/O port which is mapped as a modem port. Depending on the individual printer
driver, the Chooser may show a combo port icon (such as the ImageWriter driver),
or it may have two choices: printer and modem (such as the StyleWriter II). If
given two choices, you should select modem port.

AppleTalk can run through this port if LocalTalk (built-in) is selected in the
Network control panel and AppleTalk is Active in the Chooser. To successfully
print to a direct-connect printer, you must make AppleTalk inactive through the
Chooser.

You can redirect AppleTalk to a different port using the Network control panel
if you are connected to an Ethernet network, or if you have Apple Remote Access
Client software installed.

Since Apple Remote Access requires AppleTalk to be active, and a serial printer
requires AppleTalk to be inactive, the Remote Only selection in the Network
control panel allows you to set the internal modem port for AppleTalk. This
enables the external serial port for use with non-AppleTalk devices.

Normal and Compatible Mode
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PowerBook Setup control panel
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In the Normal mode, the modem is addressed via the System 7.x Communication
Toolbox, and the external port is available for usage.

If your communication program is NOT compatible with the Communication Toolbox,
set the PowerBook Setup control panel to Compatible. This mode prevents the
external serial port from being addressed by other programs, as well as
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preventing communication with a serial printer.

Global Village PowerPort 500 or PowerPort Duo control panel

If you have installed version 2.5 of Global Village's GlobalFax 2.5 software,
the setting for Compatible or Normal will no longer be in the PowerBook Setup
control panel. It will be in either the Global Village PowerPort 500 control
panel or Global Village PowerPort Duo control panel.

You will need to click on the "Configure Port" button in the appropriate control
panel to make the selection of Compatible or Normal. The functionality of the
Normal versus Compatible setting remains the same as described above in the
PowerBook Setup control panel.

PowerBook 200 Series with Express Modem Software

On any PowerBook Duo 200 series computer (210, 230, 250, 270c, 280, or 280c) you
need to open the Express Modem control panel and do the following:

Telecom Software

If using Telecom 2.3.2 or greater, be sure the box "Use internal modem instead
of Modem Port" is NOT checked if you wish to print to a serial printer. If the
box is checked, the serial port cannot be addressed by other programs, and the
serial port cannot be used by the printer.

Express Modem Software

If you are using Express Modem 1.5 or 1.5.5, you need open the Express Modem
control panel and change the radio button setting to "External", not "Express
Modem" in order to print to a serial printer. In this situation, "External" is
equal to the "Normal" setting and "use Express Modem" is equal to the
"Compatible" setting.

PowerBook 200 Series with Telecom Software

All PowerBook 2300c (Duo) computers must use Telecom 2.3.2 or greater software.
If you have installed older software it must be removed.

PowerBook 500 Series with Express Modem software 1.5 or later installed*

On any PowerBook Duo 500 series computer (520, 520c, 540 or 540c) which has an
Express Modem II* intstalled you need open the Express Modem control panel and
change the radio button setting to "External", not "Express Modem" in order to
print to a serial printer. In this situation, "External" is equal to the
"Normal" setting and "use Express Modem" is equal to the "Compatible" setting.

*The Express Modem II is only sold and supported in Europe. Apple does not
support the use of the Express Modem II in any country outside of Europe.

Article Change History:
26 Apr 1996 - Updated with new info about Telecom software.
05 Oct 1995 - Clarified information about 200 series and Express Modem II.

31 Mar 1995 - Added mention of PowerBook 150.

Support Information Services

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