HyperCard: MacPaint Setting Prints 4 Pages Per Card (5/95)

Article Created: 17 March 1995
Article Reviewed/Updated 18 May 1995

TOPIC ----------

I am having some difficulty printing from HyperCard. I create a stack with the card size set to MacPaint. Then I choose Print Card from the File menu. Multiple pages print out for each card! The first page has the card with all the correct information. The second, third, and fourth pages will be blank.

Is this the way HyperCard is suppose to work? Why does it print out 4 pages for every 1 card? Is there a fix for this, or some workaround?

DISCUSSION ----------

This HyperCard behavior is not entirely unexpected because some applications have a large print area (for example, the typical MacPaint card size has a fairly large print area). This can result in each card actually requiring more than a single page to print.

Examples Using Different Printers

This example uses a one card stack with a MacPaint sized card. The paint bucket tool was used to fill in a fairly dense pattern on the card to help see what is being printed. Two pages printed on a LaserWriter Pro 630.

The MacPaint card size is 576 pixels by 720 pixels. This card image is a little wider than the image area of the LaserWriter Pro 630, so the second page held a "sliver" of the right hand side of the card.

When resizing the card size of a stack, HyperCard forces pixel sizes of a multiple of 32 pixels for the width and 8 pixels for the height.

By resizing the card width from 576 pixels down to 544 pixels, the card printed on one page. A stack sized at 544 pixels wide by 736 pixels high printed on two pages with a sliver of the bottom of the card on the second page. A stack sized at 576 pixels wide by 736 pixels high, printed on four pages with a slivers of the right and bottom of the card on the second and third pages and the fourth page had a tiny square from the lower right of the card.

Depending on the printer used, a large sized card may need to be spread over multiple pages to show the whole card image. If there is not any kind of pattern

near the right and bottom of the cards then the extra pages may appear to be just extra blank pages, when actually they represent boundaries of the card image. Be sure after resizing a stack that the fill pattern extends to the bottom of the newly sized cards. The pattern does not propagate just because the card is made larger.

The way the card prints out depends on the pixel imaging size of your printer. Another factor that could have an effect on this printing situation, in a non-QuickDraw GX environment, is whether you have set the Page Setup Options to have a larger imaging area available by choosing fewer downloadable fonts.

This article was published in the "Information Alley":
Volume II, Issue 2, Page 7

Article Change History:
18 May 1995 - Made several modifications; added Info Alley information.

Keywords: ksts,supt,kalley

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19960215 11:05:19.00
Tech Info Library Article Number: 17382