LaserWriter Select 310: Slow Printing Hints (2/95)

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Topic ---

My LaserWriter Select 310 prints extremely slow when using TrueType fonts
or Color/Grayscale images.

Discussion --

Here are some suggestions that might help "speed up" print times:

• Turn OFF the "Color/Grayscale" option in the Print Options dialog (use
  the Black & White setting). Color/Grayscale should only be used when
  there is a direct need for grayscale images. If you must use grayscale,
  try reducing the size of the grayscale image or use a lower resolution
  original (for example use images scanned at 72 or 144 dpi rather than
  300 dpi). It may also be possible to substitute patterns for grayscale
  gradients.

• Reduce the total number of fonts in your document. The LW Select 310
  contains the following font families in the printer ROM -- Courier,
  Helvetica, Symbol, and Times. Stylistic variations of these fonts such
  as bold and italic are also supported. If you plan on using an Adobe
  Type 1 or TrueType font which is NOT included in the above list of
  ROM-resident font families, verify that the "Unlimited Downloadable Fonts
  in a Document" option in the Page Setup Options dialog is UNCHECKED.
  Note that the USE of the unlimited downloadable fonts option will result
  in MUCH longer print times. The unlimited downloadable fonts option
  should only be selected if a document fails to print because of a low VM
  (printer's virtual memory) condition caused by multiple non-ROM resident
  fonts being used in a single document. This low VM condition (sometimes
  reported as a simple PostScript error) is most likely to be seen on
  1.5 MB RAM printers when working with more than two or three non-ROM
  resident fonts (for example, trying to print a document which contains
  Palatino, Palatino Bold, and Palatino Italic). It may also be possible to
  separate a document into several chapters with fewer total fonts in each
  section. Each chapter could then be printed as a separate document, thus
  possibly avoiding the use of the unlimited downloadable fonts option.

- Some high-end printing applications attempt to bypass or augment the Apple supplied LW Select 310 printer driver. Unfortunately, this process sometimes results in longer print times. If your application allows an option to override the Apple supplied printer driver and your document is taking too long to print, you should attempt to print the document directly through the Apple supplied printer driver. To learn more about how your specific application may use the Apple supplied printer driver, refer to your application documentation. Note that very few applications will be affected by this problem.

- The question of installing more printer RAM in order to improve printing performance has also been raised. The only situation in which users are likely to see significant improvements in printing SPEED after a printer RAM upgrade (that is, moving from 1.5 MB to 2.5 MB or 5.5 MB of printer memory) is if they are commonly forced to use the unlimited downloadable fonts option as discussed above. If the installation of more printer memory allows them to print their documents WITHOUT using the unlimited downloadable fonts option, then their printing times may be reduced. However, Apple should NOT suggest to all users that a printer memory upgrade is a general "cure" for slow printing. Some documents and printer usage will be unaffected by a RAM upgrade.

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