



# Tech Info Library

## Color LaserWriter 12/600 PS: New Windows Parallel Cable (12/95)

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TOPIC -----

The Color LaserWriter 12/600 PS specification sheet lists a 1284 Parallel I/O cable (M4235M/A). Do I need this cable, or can I use a "standard" parallel cable? Also, how what is the length of this cable?

DISCUSSION -----

You cannot use the old style parallel cable. The parallel interface on the Color LaserWriter 12/600 PS controller side is new. The physical connector is different from the old style parallel port. The Color LaserWriter 12/600 PS uses a IEEE-1284 cable, this cable is not interchangeable with the older style parallel cables.

The old style parallel cables used a 1284-A style plug, which use a 1284-B connector. The Color LaserWriter 12/600 PS controller uses the newer 1284-C style connector. This new connector fully supports the 1284 ECP transfer mode (Fast mode), which is why Apple uses it.

There may be some third-party adapters that will allow you to convert the older 1284-B to the newer 1284-C connector. However, Apple will not support such a configuration.

The 1284 Parallel I/O cable (M4235M/A) is 10-feet in length, if you need longer length cables, you will need to find a third-party vendor who sells IEEE-1284 compliant cables.

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