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LaserWriter GX Driver: Problems with GX-Savvy Apps (4/96)

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TOPIC -----

There are inconsistencies with the Page Setup options in LaserWriter GX when using GX-savvy applications. For example, the 300 and 600 dpi (dots per inch) settings do not seem to print correctly. Page Setup always comes up with 300 dpi as the default resolution instead of the resolution to which the printer has been set using the LaserWriter Utility. Also, Balloon Help reports incorrect information when pointing to the 300 and 600 dpi buttons.

DISCUSSION -----

Resolution

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This issue has been resolved in QuickDraw GX 1.1.x. In order to use QuickDraw GX 1.1 (or later), you must have at least System 7.5 installed. Apple recommends that you always use the latest version of QuickDraw GX, which is available from the online services.

Workaround

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If you are using a version of QuickDraw GX that is earlier than 1.1, you can follow the instructions below as a workaround.

The names of the 300 and 600 dpi buttons are reversed. The first button marked 600 dpi actually has the functionality of 300 dpi, and the 300 dpi button the functionality for 600 dpi. Balloon Help actually reports the correct information about the buttons' functionality. Unfortunately, the checkboxes for PhotoGrade and FinePrint are tied to the incorrect buttons so the workarounds are not as easy as selecting the opposite buttons.

LaserWriter Pro 630 and LaserWriter Select 360

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Steps to selecting DPI, PhotoGrade, and FinePrint:

To print at 300 dpi

Select the 600 dpi button.

. To enable... Select...

. PhotoGrade 300 dpi and check PhotoGrade. Reselect 600 dpi.
. NOTE: The LaserWriter Select 360 does not support
. PhotoGrade printing.
. FinePrint 300 dpi and check FinePrint. Reselect 600 dpi.

To print at 600 dpi

Select the 300 dpi button. Ignore the FinePrint and PhotoGrade buttons. The LaserWriter Pro 630 and LaserWriter Select 360 printers automatically disable FinePrint and/or PhotoGrade at 600 dpi.

The default dpi is always 600 dpi. Again, the 300 dpi button is selected, which in reality is 600 dpi. The default dpi is always 600 dpi in any application, regardless of the printer's dpi setting. LaserWriter 8.x drivers default automatically to Printer's Default, which uses the printer's dpi setting. At the present time, LaserWriter GX does not have this option.

LaserWriter Pro 16/600 PS and LaserWriter Pro 810

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The LaserWriter Pro 16/600 PS and the LaserWriter Pro 810, display different Page Setup options.

LaserWriter Pro 16/600 PS

The LaserWriter Pro 16/600 PS only provides the ability to enable/disable FinePrint and PhotoGrade since it can print at 600 dpi, with or without these options enabled.

LaserWriter Pro 810

The LaserWriter Pro 810 does not have FinePrint or PhotoGrade so there are no checkboxes for them. The only buttons displayed are for 400 or 800 dpi instead of 300 and 600 dpi.

You only see these problems using the Page Setup options with GX-savvy applications such as the Finder, Microsoft Word 6.0, and SimpleText. Non-GX-savvy applications display the "old-style" Page Setup dialogs and options.

These articles can help you locate the software update mentioned here:

- "Where To Find Apple Software Updates" - Lists online services for free Apple software updates.
- "Obtaining Apple Product Support in the USA" - Lists 800 numbers and online services for software updates, Apple support information, and a subset of the Apple Tech Info Library.

Article Change History:

15 Apr 1996 - Updated technical information.

06 Mar 1995 - Added keyword; made minor technical updates.

10 Nov 1994 - Added note that LW Select 360 not supporting PhotoGrade.

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