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Macintosh: Sharing A LaserWriter II With A VAX

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If you need printer-sharing between VAX terminals (MicroVAX, for instance) and one Macintosh Plus using a LaserWriter IINT or IINTX, the simplest solution would be to use the one Macintosh Plus system as a terminal.

This can be accomplished through the use of one of the many terminal emulators available. This also prevents you from having to install a network for just one machine's needs.

Another possibility is to upload PostScript output files from the Macintosh to the MicroVAX and have the VAX print them. These files can be generated by holding down the Command and 'k' keys when printing using the LaserWriter drivers. A disk file is then generated instead of actually printing to a LaserWriter.

A third possibility is installing an Ethernet between the MicroVAX and a FastPath and connecting the FastPath and the Macintosh Plus together through an AppleTalk network. The MicroVAX would need to be running LaserWriter spooling software that would allow it to accept files over the network from the Macintosh Plus.

The drawback with such a setup is that users of WordPerfect on the MicroVAX might not be able to use the printer if the software on the MicroVAX is unable to accept print jobs from multiple (different) sources.

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