Apple II Family: Using With LaserWriter (2/97)

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TOPIC ---

This article discusses using a LaserWriter printer with the Apple II family of computers.

DISCUSSION ---

A LaserWriter can be connected to any Apple II containing a Super Serial Card, or the serial ports (modem port and printer port) in an Apple IIc or Apple IIGS.

This is made possible by setting the serial interface to use XON/XOFF protocol using one of the following two methods.

1st Method

Send the following code exactly as shown. The Super Serial Card must be in communications mode (jumper block set to "modem"), because print mode (jumper block set to "terminal") doesn't support XON/XOFF.

Apple IIc/IIGS printer port:	Control-I X E
Apple IIc/IIGS modem port:	Control-A X E
Super Serial Card:	Control-I X

- Control-I (or Control-A) tells the firmware that you are sending a character to act on.

- The X tells the firmware to use XON/XOFF protocol.

- The E says 'Enable the function designated by the next printable character.'

2nd Method

Set up the LaserWriter for DTR handshake (requires version 2 or greater of the LaserWriter ROMs). This can be done by sending the following code segment to the LaserWriter with the switch set to 9600:

```
  serverdict begin 0 exitserver
```

```
  statusdict begin
  25 9600 7 setsccbatch
  end
```

This sets the 25-pin connector to 9600 baud, DTR flow control, no parity. Substituting 9 for 25 sets the 9-pin connector to the same parameters. This change is written into EEROM, and remains as what is called a persistent parameter until changed back. To change the printer back to XON/XOFF, send this code segment:

```
  serverdict begin 0 exitserver
  statusdict begin
  25 9600 3 setsccbatch
  end
```

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