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## LaserWriter II: Connecting an MS-DOS Computer (5/96)

Article Created: 17 June 1988

Article Last Reviewed/Updated: 05 June 1996

When you configure the DIP switches (or push-button switch) of a LaserWriter II series printer for the appropriate communication channels, default parameters are also set for baud rate, parity, and data/stop bits.

For example:

On the LaserWriter IINT, setting switch 1 up and switch 2 down configures both serial ports to the PostScript batch mode at 9600 baud, 8 data bits, 1 stop bit, ignore parity, and XON/XOFF.

The MS-DOS computer must be configured to match the LaserWriter's communication parameters. Type these two MS-DOS commands to set baud to 9600, parity none, 8 data bits, 1 stop bit:

```
MODE COM1:96,N,8,1,P
MODE LPT1:=COM1
```

These commands, vary depending on the current settings of the LaserWriter with which the computer will be communicating. They must be updated each time the LaserWriter parameters are changed.

Handshaking must also match; MS-DOS computers typically use DSR/DTR -- the LaserWriter defaults to XON/XOFF. Some MS-DOS applications allow you to change the handshake protocol; ifnot, you will have to configure the printer to conform to the computer's handshake.

On the LaserWriter IINTX, handshaking is controlled by switches 5 and 6; setting switch 5 up and switch 6 down configures the printer to use DSR/DTR. It is possible to override these settings through a PostScript program.

On the LaserWriter IINT, handshaking must be configured by sending a PostScript program for changing parameters with options encoded for the appropriate values for the compatible handshake method. To set the DB-25 port for communication at 9600 baud and with DTR handshaking on the LaserWriter, send this PostScript program:

```
serverdict begin 0 exitserver
statusdict begin
```

25 9600 4 setscbatch  
end

On the Laserwriter IIf and IIg, these settings are adjusted with a push-button switch, not with DIP switches. The switch setting configurations are documented in the following table.

Begin\_Table

Switch setting	Mode	Baud	Data	Stop	Parity	Handshaking
0	Postscript	9600	8	1	N	XON
1	HP PCL4	9600	8	1	N	DTR
2	Postscript	19200	8	1	N	XON
3	<inactive>					
4	Postscript	1200	7	1	N	XON
5	Postscript	9600	8	1	N	XON
6	Postscript	19200	8	1	N	XON
7	Postscript	1200	8	1	N	DTR
8	HP PCL4	1200	8	1	N	XON
9	Postscript*	9600	8	1	N	XON

\*switch setting 9 sets printer to postscript binary

End\_table

More information on changing parameters on the LaserWriters can be found in current Apple LaserWriter Reference manuals, and current PostScript Language Reference Manuals. See the manuals that came with your MS-DOS computer for more information on communication configuration.

Article Change History:

28 Mar 1992 - Corrected technical information.

05 Jun 1996 - Added Laserwriter IIf and IIg information.

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Keywords: <None>

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19960606 07:04:28.00

Tech Info Library Article Number: 1935