

## Re: changing default printer doesn't hold

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Win2000/microsoft.public.win2000.printing/2004-03/0186.html>

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**From:** Alan Morris\ (MSFT) ([alanmo\\_at\\_online.microsoft.com](mailto:alanmo_at_online.microsoft.com))

**Date:** 03/10/04

Date: Tue, 9 Mar 2004 19:21:20 -0800

Yes I know how to trick the system into multiple and no default printers.  
It's a UI thing.

PS I have a big bat for the real frustrating issues. But actually debugging  
the driver on this one my reveal the true problem. Give me a couple days.

HP LaserJet 1200 from HP

Which driver is this 1200, 1200n, or 1200se. PCL5, PCL6, or PS? I assume  
the printer is shared from a Windows 2000 server with the client Windows  
2000 Pro.

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Alan Morris

Windows Printing Team

Search the Microsoft Knowledge Base here:

[http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=fh;\[ln\];kbhowto](http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=fh;[ln];kbhowto)

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"Dianah" <[anonymous@discussions.microsoft.com](mailto:anonymous@discussions.microsoft.com)> wrote in message  
news:9c6001c40619\$9b907060\$a501280a@phx.gbl...

> Well Alan ... what happened was interesting (none of the  
> following worked)

>

> 1. Registry: I added both a \* and \$ (different times of  
> course) and they worked when I restarted the service, and  
> worked with a different login, however, it went right back  
> to the network printer on reboot, so stop/restart the  
> printspool in services isn't a true test for this  
> particular problem.

>

> 2. Deleted/Add printer: I deleted the printer (after  
> resetting it as default). I got the warning (deleting  
> default printer). It chose another printer for default.  
> I went to choose a different printer as default and  
> suddenly there were two default printers selected  
> (something strange is going on). After some persistence I  
> ended up with only one default.

>

> 3. Driver: I downloaded, then installed the latest  
> printer driver for the HP Photosmart 7350. I set it as  
> default, stopped/started printer service, it held. On  
> reboot, the default switched back to the network printer.

>

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> So far, nothing "permanently sets" the local printer as  
> default with a reboot on this pc.  
>  
> Any other thoughts (one that maybe involves the use of a  
> huge hammer).  
>  
> Thanks for your suggestions though. I appreciate it. It  
> let me explore other avenues. Diana  
> >-----Original Message-----  
> >I have seen some Epson drivers that always set themselves  
> up as default. Is  
> >one model printer always the new default? Which model,  
> where did you get  
> >the driver?  
> >  
> >You have several printers to choose from, are they  
> network connection,  
> >"local" (this can be to a Standard TCP Port, it's still  
> local to the  
> >machine) attached. If the default you want is a network  
> connected printer,  
> >the connection may be failing when the spooler is  
> started, and the default  
> >gets reset to the first enumerated device. If changing  
> any local printers  
> >so they are first in the list (use a special character \*  
> or \$) changes which  
> >printer is set as default, it would indicate an issue  
> other than the  
> >specific driver.  
> >  
> >Since this occurs when you reboot, this implies that the  
> default is changed  
> >when the spooler service starts. You can test this  
> without rebooting by  
> >setting the default then stopping the Print Spooler from  
> the service  
> >control manager and restarting.  
> >  
> >The registry key that holds the default printer is  
> >  
> >HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER\Software\Microsoft\windowsNT\CurrentVers  
> ion\Windows  
> >--  
> >Alan Morris  
> >Windows Printing Team  
> >Search the Microsoft Knowledge Base here:  
> ><http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=fh;>  
> [ln];kbhowto  
> >  
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> confers no rights.  
> >  
> >"Dianah" <anonymous@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in  
> message  
> >news:9a4901c405f6\$b8276620\$a401280a@phx.gbl...  
> >> Hi ... using windows 2000. I have a few printers to  
> >> choose from. Every day I change the default printer.  
> >> When I reboot, it changes to another printer (the same  
> >> printer, everyday). Is there some secret to getting the  
> >> setting to hold. Is this a registry glitch or  
> >> something.

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> >> Thanks in advance.  
> >> Diana  
> >  
> >  
> >.  
> >