

Re: How to "Print to File" in 17CPI

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.print_fax/2004-10/0777.html

From: Thomas Ferguson (*tomf_at_mvps.org*)

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To add to Chuck's suggestions:

I am left almost speechless. I have no idea what to suggest since I don't know why a printer file is needed. Some general thoughts on the subject:

Just about any dot matrix printer can print at 17 cpi. I would have said every printer made except that someone would find an exception ;-)).

So, let's suppose you install the Epson LQ 860 driver (I picked that one because I have it installed). Now, create a document in whatever program selecting Roman 17 CPI as the font. Now print it "to file" and choose a filename. Next, check the output in an editor. You will not recognise it as sensible.

The 'Text Only' driver will produce recognisable text as part of the output together with whatever control codes are needed to put the printer in 17 cpi mode and select the correct characters from printer ROM. However, to do that, the driver requires that you put the codes in the driver setup for the font selection you want. Otherwise the driver simply allows the printer to use the default font (usually 10 cpi) or whatever has been set using the printer's front panel controls (if any there be) or DIP switches (if that is the implemented control method). So, you have to determine the control codes (sometimes called escape sequences) the printer needs for 17 cpi and put these in the driver. Manuals for most printer can be found on line. Also, many impact dot matrix printers recognise Epson codes but many do not. Also, many do so by 'emulation' and require printer DIP switch changes or printer control panel input.

I have no idea if any of this is of any help. In order to suggest anything useful, more must be known.

Tom Ferguson

"JeremyH" <JeremyH@discussions.microsoft.com> wrote in message news:C2ED9EB9-DCFC-4206-97CE-94A5C7942871@microsoft.com...

: Thanks Chuck. I'm going to try and find out what his old printer was that

: would print 17cpi and then just install those drivers. I'm guessing you can

: do that without the actual printer hooked up, right?

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: "Chuck" wrote:

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: > The Select 17 CPI sequence is printer specific. The text file sent via the

: > Generic driver is basically Ascii Text with any desired printer commands.

: > For instance if you were using an Epson Esc2 dot matrix printer, the

: > sequence would set to 15 CPI since 17 was not usually available. If you

: > search on Epson Esc P2 printer commands , you should find a