SuperDriver Help Index

SuperDrivers are printer drivers that use Zenographics' SoftRIP technology.   This allows faster printing of complex graphics and bitmaps, efficient multitasking for smooth background printing, and the use of scalable *on-the-fly* printer fonts.

This Index lists all the available SuperDriver Help topics and procedures for the two Canon Laser LBP model printers: LBP-4 and LBP-8.   Use the scroll bar to see entries not currently visible in the Help window.

To learn how to use Help, press F1 or choose Using Help from the Help menu.

Help Topics

Configuring   Canon Laser Printers
Printer Setup
Fonts
Options
Dithering Options
Duplexing Options
Managing Canon Laser Printer Memory

Configuring Canon Laser Printers

To configure SuperDriver for Canon Laser Printers:

1. Double-click on the **Control Panel** icon in Program Manager.
2. Double-click on the **Printers** icon.

The **Printers** dialog box displays.

3. Choose Canon SuperDriver from the Installed Printers box.
4. Choose **Configure...** and select the port to which your Canon printer is connected.
5. Choose **Setup...** to display your printer's SuperDriver hardware configuration options.

Refer to the Printer Setup Help screen for further information.

6. Return to the **Printers** dialog box.
7. Click on **Active** in the Status box to make your printer active.

NOTE: If the Canon Laser printer does not display as the default printer in the Default Printer box, double-click on the Canon SuperDriver printer line in the Installed Printers box.

8. Click on **OK** to confirm your printer's configuration.

You return to the **Control Panel**.

Printer Setup

The SuperDriver **Printer Setup** dialog box lets you select various hardware options for your specific Canon Laser model.

Printer Model
Make sure that you choose the correct Canon printer model.   Your choice determines the available options in the **Printer Setup** dialog box.

NOTE: The contents of some list boxes can change or become grayed (unavailable) when you select a particular model.

Paper Size
Select the correct paper size from the available choices.

- Model **LBP-4**:   letter size, legal size, A4, executive.
- Model **LBP-8**:   letter size, legal size, A4, executive, various envelope sizes.

Paper Source
Lists all of the trays and bins supported by the Canon laser printers.

- Model **LBP-4**:   Grayed.
- Model **LBP-8**:   Upper tray, lower tray, manual feed, envelope, automatic.

NOTE: Make sure that the **Paper Size** on the LBP-8 model matches the contents of the tray or feeder if you select a paper source other than automatic.

Media Type
Grayed for both printer models.

Orientation
Determines the direction in which print displays on a page: portrait or landscape. SuperDriver builds the fonts for the orientation you select.   You don't have to load special landscape fonts.

Copies
Lets you specify how many uncollated copies you want to print.   For single-page documents, it's usually best to designate copy count in SuperDriver's **Printer Setup** box.

Many Windows applications let you select specific options: copy count, collated copies, etc. These options are important when you send multi-page documents to print.   Refer to the SuperDriver section of your manual for more details on **Copies**.

Fonts

If you choose **Fonts...** from the **Printer Setup** dialog box, the SuperText main window displays.   Refer to your manual or to SuperText's on-line Help for more information.

Options

If you choose **Options...** from the **Printer Setup** dialog box, the following settings display: **Output**, **SuperQueue**, **Processing**, **Multitasking**, and **Resolution**.

Output options
Output options control the way data is sent to your output device.   Your choices include: **Reverse Order**, **Compression**, **High-speed direct LPT**, and **Draft Quality**.

Reverse Order changes your printer's output order when you use a Windows applications that generates multiple-page output.   It causes certain printers to print pages in opposite sequence (last page first).

NOTE: It is better to set the **Reverse Order** option in a specific Windows application if it is available.   The option will cancel out if it's set for both the application and SuperDriver.

Compression speeds the transmission of data and reduces printing time.   You may want to turn **Compression** *off* to improve your throughput when your image is composed largely of natural images (bitmaps).

High-speed direct LPT sends data directly to your hardware LPT port.   It is ignored if your printer is not attached to a port beginning with LPT.

Turn **High-speed direct LPT** *off* if you are doing any of the following:

1. Printing over a network.
2. Using Windows' Print Manager.
3. Using Windows 386 enhanced mode.
4. Experiencing printing problems such as garbled graphics or a "hung" printer.

Draft Quality grayed for Canon laser printers.

SuperQueue option
Queue for Later causes your application to create SuperMetafiles for later printing with SuperQueue.   Use SuperQueue instead of Windows' Print Manager to print files in the background or batch (delayed) mode.   SuperQueue can do the following: accept your application program's output faster; return control to you faster; and print faster than Print Manager.   Refer to Chapter 5 in your manual for more information about SuperQueue.

Processing options
Show Status Window lets you disable the SuperDriver Status pop-up window that displays when SuperDriver is printing.

Report 0 Margins should be *off* for most applications that use a page's normal margins.   If you find that output images are printing clipped, turn **Report 0 Margins** *on* and reprint.

Multitasking
Multitasking controls the amount of processor time SuperDriver gives to other Windows functions.   Choose one of the following:

-   **Often**   (after every scanline) when you're using SuperQueue for background printing and want the smoothest possible foreground performance.

-   **Sometimes** when you want fast printing with light foreground activity (such as data or text entry).

-   **Rarely** (after every 255 scanlines) when you want SuperDriver printing to proceed at top speed.   This setting can cause "chunky" foreground performance.

Resolution
Canon laser printers support multiple resolutions: 75 dpi, 150 dpi, and 300 dpi.

NOTE: **Do not** enter an "oddball" resolution value in the **Custom** resolution box if your printer does not specifically support the resolution.

Dithering Options

Dithering refers to the patterns in which halftone dots are placed on a page to form shades of gray or colors.   Dithering works by clustering individual printer dots into "cells."   The smaller the cells, the greater the detail.

Ordered Dither Pattern
Ordered dithering arranges the cells at a constant angle in relation to each other. SuperPrint lets you set four different cell sizes for dithering:

- **2x2** gives you a sharper look when printing object graphics with large areas of single colors (such as a business graph).

- **4x4** gives you better color or grayscale depth for printing natural (bitmap) images.

- **8x8** gives you better color or grayscale depth, especially if you intend to photocopy your output.

- **Default** lets SuperDriver select the general-purpose dither pattern most suited for Canon laser printers.

Error Diffusion
Error diffusion refers to a method of dithering that takes into account the color or gray-level of the pixel being processed as well as the neighboring pixels.

- **2-way** takes two neighboring pixels into account.
- **4-way** takes four neighboring pixels into account.

Error diffusion can give an overall smoother look to graphics.

NOTE: You cannot select both **Ordered** and **Error diffusion** dithering; they are mutually exclusive.

Gray Levels
Gray levels are a contrast control that forces SuperDriver to restrict the number of gray shades produced.   SuperDriver's default setting of 64 usually produces the most pleasing results.   Refer to the manual for further information.

NOTE: **Gray levels** are unavailable when you use **Error diffusion**.

Duplexing Options

Duplexing is printing two-sided copies.   Only the LBP-8 Mark III R printer supports this option.   You are unable to request multiple copies from SuperDriver if this option is selected.

You have three duplexing choices:

- **No Duplex** (default setting) prints one-sided copies.
- **Top Binding** prints page two upside down in relation to page one.
- **Left Binding** prints normal two-sided copies.

Managing Canon Laser Printer Memory

SuperPrint generates all graphics and *on-the-fly* text inside your system and sends each resulting raster scanline to your printer.   Different models have various compression schemes; some let you print a full page at 300 dpi with only 512K RAM onboard the printer.

If your printer model doesn't have enough memory to print a full page at 300 dpi, select a lower resolution value such as 75 or 150 dpi.   Although the output quality isn't as good, your printer uses less memory to buffer the image.   The results should give you a satisfactory draft copy.