

LaserwriterLockout 1.0b6 is a freeware init/cdev combination that lets you control which LaserWriters appear in the Chooser desk accessory. This program will be particularly useful to network environments where access to a particular LaserWriter should be available to only certain nodes on that network.

This program complements my program, ChooserUser, which allows system administrators to control the user name in the Chooser desk accessory both at startup and in the Chooser.

It also complements my program, LockBootVolNameINIT, which prevents users from casually changing the name of the startup of volume in the Finder.

To install **LaserwriterLockout**, simply place the file in your System Folder and reboot.

(**LaserwriterLockout** affects only the Macintosh it is installed on.)

LaserwriterLockout 1.0b6 fixes a few bugs in **LaserwriterLockout** 1.0b5 and 1.0b4 and adds a new feature.

- 1) Now searches the zones one at a time, preparing a new list of laserwriters for each zone. This also fixes a bug wherein laserwriters were found on one zone only. In addition, because the search is separated into parts, it's faster, and the user doesn't have to wait for an entire network search of laserwriters to be completed.
- 2) Fixed a bug that caused the system to hang when the Control Panel was opened and the frontmost window was the Chooser.
- 3) Fixed a bug in 1.0b5 that caused the system to crash occasionally when the Chooser was opened.
- 4) Fixed a bug that caused the names of Laserwriters that were not hidden as well as other items that should not have been hidden to flash and disappear from the Chooser under certain circumstances.

Select **LaserwriterLockout** in the Control Panel. The first time it is chosen, it displays a dialog asking you to register it. You can just click OK without making any entries if you want, but the dialog will be redisplayed every time **LaserwriterLockout** is accessed from the Control Panel. In the System Administrator field, type in your name. In the second edit field, labeled Computer Site Name, type in the name of the computing site or the name of the organization you are affiliated with. This information is currently not displayed anywhere. In the third field, if you want, you can enter a password of up to 10 letters. What you type appears directly in the window, so don't let others who shouldn't know it see your typing it. The password is designed to protect against users who casually stumble upon **LaserwriterLockout** and might inadvertently change its settings. It also offers some minor protection against hackers who want to circumvent their inability to select restricted LaserWriters.

LaserwriterLockout can hide the "System Folder" from the Finder desktop. Check the button labeled "Hide 'System Folder' from Desktop". The System Folder will not appear in the Finder desktop once the Finder has had a chance to update the desktop. This can be made to happen by opening and closing the bootup volume window. Uncheck this button to make the System Folder reappear. Once a password is entered, it is necessary to check on the "Password Protect cdev" button to engage it. From this point on, the cdev will prompt you for the password every time it is opened. If you type an incorrect password, **LaserwriterLockout** will beep and select it. If you choose "Cancel", **LaserwriterLockout** will be closed. You can also alter the password by clicking on the "Alter Password" button. You can turn off the password protection at any time in the cdev by unchecking the "Password Protect cdev" button.

The second panel in the cdev (the first panel is just the name **LaserwriterLockout** along with my name) is where you can select the names of LaserWriters to hide from the Chooser. This panel contains two lists. The upper one is for laserwriters, and the lower one is for zones.

After the initial dialog that comes up, if there is one, when **LaserwriterLockout** is selected in the Control Panel, it begins searching the AppleTalk network for zones. (If you don't have any zones, then it begins searching for laserwriters.) The zone names appear in the lower list. Once the list of zones is complete, it selects the first zone in the list and searches it for laserwriters. The laserwriter names are added to the upper list after they are found. If an error occurs during the search, it is aborted.

Unlike the Chooser which updates its list of laserwriters, **LaserwriterLockout** builds the list once. As a result, the list may not be complete because one or more laserwriters was busy at the time it was queried. If this happens, try opening the program when those printers are not busy or if there is more than one zone, switch to another zone and back to the one with missing printers.

Once the search has been completed, you can choose another zone by selecting its name in the lower list. When another zone is selected, **LaserwriterLockout** removes the items in the upper list and fills it with the Laserwriters of the zone you selected. You can then select which LaserWriters you want to be hidden by unhighlighting their names. Highlighted names are not hidden.

Before you reboot your Macintosh for the changes to take effect, you should make sure that the currently selected LaserWriter isn't one of those you have to set to be hidden. If it is, then the user may still be able

to print to that LaserWriter. However, if the user uses the Chooser and doesn't select another LaserWriter, then the currently selected LaserWriter may become unspecified in which case an error will occur the next time the user tries to print.

At this point, **LaserwriterLockout** does not distinguish among printer types or zones in the Chooser. If the name of a Laserwriter is the same as an imagewriter or other Chooser device or if a Laserwriter of the same name appears in the another zone, that device will also be hidden from the Chooser.

Unlike most other inits, **LaserwriterLockout** cannot not be bypassed at startup by pressing a key or holding down the mouse button.

Thanks to my beta testers Dane Spearing, John Stevens, Doug Larrick, Jonathan Shultz, and Fred Terry.

Distribution of **LaserwriterLockout** must be accompanied with this documentation.

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