

LaserwriterLockout 1.1 is a freeware init/cdev combination that lets you control which LaserWriters (and other chooser devices, too) appear in the Chooser desk accessory. This program will be particularly useful to network environments where access to a particular LaserWriter (or other chooser device) should be available to only certain nodes on that network.

This program complements my program, ChooserUser 1.1, which allows system administrators to control the user name in the Chooser desk accessory both at startup and in the Chooser.

LaserwriterLockout 1.1 adds new features to the previous version, **LaserwriterLockout 1.0b6**, which include the following:

- 1) Now can hide any device that appears in the Chooser window, such as Appletalk ImageWriters and AppleShare volumes.
- 2) Can be configured to hide new devices as they are added to the network without changing the configuration in the control panel.
- 3) Completely redesigned password protection for the cdev. All password characters are displayed as bullets. In addition, it is necessary to confirm the new password when the password is changed.
- 4) Now works with foreign versions of the System software where the name of the Chooser is in a different language.

To install **LaserwriterLockout**, simply place the file in your System Folder and reboot. (**LaserwriterLockout** affects only the Macintosh it is installed on.)

Select **LaserwriterLockout** in the Control Panel. The first time **LaserwriterLockout** 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 still not displayed anywhere.

If you want, you can restrict access to the cdev with password protection. To enter a new password for the first time, click on the "Password Protect cdev" button. A dialog appears with two edit fields. In the upper one, type a new password of up to 10 letters. Because what you type is displayed as bullet characters for security, you can't be certain that you haven't made a mistake. For this reason, there is a second edit field below where you need to retype the password for confirmation. Both edit fields support delete, arrow keys, and selection, but not cut or paste commands. When you click OK, if the text in the two edit fields does not match, a beep will occur and the dialog will not be dismissed. If you click Cancel, no password will be registered. If the password is accepted, the "Password Protect cdev" button will become checked, indicating that password protection is on and the password will be required on subsequent access of **LaserwriterLockout** from the Control Panel. If you type an incorrect password upon opening the cdev, a beep will occur, the text will be selected, and the dialog will not be dismissed. If you choose "Cancel", **LaserwriterLockout** will be closed. If you wish to turn off password protection, uncheck the button. The current password will be forgotten, and if you check on the button again, you will be prompted for a new password.

For additional protection, **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.

The second panel in the cdev (the first panel is just the name **LaserwriterLockout** along with my name) contains a popup menu where you select a network device for LaserwriterLockout to search out. The menu contains items for Appleshare volumes, Appletalk Imagewriters, and Laserwriters. If the machine you are using has other Chooser device files in the system folder, their device names will also appear in the menu, but below the separator line. When you choose a device from the menu, **LaserwriterLockout** will begin searching for that device on the currently selected zone.

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 the currently selected device.) The zone names appear in the upper list. Once the list of zones is complete, it selects the first zone in the list and searches it for the currently selected device. The names of these devices present on the first zone are added to the lower list after they are found. If an error occurs during the search, it is aborted.

Unlike the Chooser which updates its list of Appletalk devices, **LaserwriterLockout** builds the list once. As a result, the list may not be complete because one or more of the devices 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 (or device) and back to the one with missing items.

You can choose another zone by selecting its name in the upper list. When another zone is selected, **LaserwriterLockout** removes the items in the lower list and fills it with the names of the currently selected device in that zone.

You can then select which devices you want to be hidden by either selecting or deselecting their names in the lower list. By default, devices appear in the list selected unless you specifically have unselected them. However, whether the selected devices or the unselected ones are hidden depends on the state of the "Hide New Devices" button. It is normally unchecked meaning that only devices that are unselected will be the ones hidden.

When the "Hide New Devices" button is unchecked, devices that you deselect will be hidden from the Chooser. Devices that are physically added to the network after you have configured the cdev will appear in the Chooser.

When the "Hide New Devices" button is checked, devices that you deselect will be shown in the Chooser. All other devices, including those physically added to the network after you have configured the cdev, will be hidden from the Chooser.

Before you reboot your Macintosh for the changes to take effect, you should make sure that the currently Laserwriter isn't one of those you have to set to be hidden. If it is, then the user may still be able to use that Laserwriter. However, if the user uses the Chooser and doesn't select another Laserwriter, then the currently selected device may become unspecified in which case an error will occur the next time the user tries to print. Other devices may be affected in the same way.

At this point, **LaserwriterLockout** does not distinguish same type devices with the same name. For example, if the name of a Laserwriter is the same as one in another zone, then both will 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 for this version: Joe Barrisa, Jonathan Shultz, Antoine Margot, and Doug Larrick.

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

LaserwriterLockout comes from

Maurice Volaski

Internet: volaski@contra.med.buffalo.edu

Address: 173 Princeton Ave. Apt #2, Amherst, NY 14226-5006