

Print Artist 1500 version 3.0 for Windows
Last Minute Info
May 28, 1996

This document contains late-breaking information, and answers to frequently asked questions concerning Print Artist 1500 for Windows.

Anti-Virus Software

If you have any anti-virus software running on your system, you should disable it temporarily for purposes of installing Print Artist; otherwise the Setup program may crash.

Systems with 8MB RAM

During the setup routine, you will be asked to perform a System Test. If your computer only has 8 megabytes of ram, you may fail the setup memory test. If your system fails the setup memory test, you can bypass the System Test, by clicking on "NO" when asked if you want to perform it. Click on "YES" when asked if you want to continue installing. You may need to increase virtual memory to at least an 8,000KB Permanent Swapfile. Consult your windows manual, or contact a certified technician for instructions on how to correctly configure virtual memory.

Installing onto a Compressed Hard Drive

If you are using Stacker, DoubleSpace or similar drive compression technology software, be aware that Print Artist is already very compressed. This means that you may have to free up more hard disk space than the minimum requirements for Print Artist before it will install correctly. For example, installing this version of Print Artist may require up to 28 megabytes of free space on a compressed drive instead of the 14 megabytes needed on a normal uncompressed drive.

Hard Drive Space Requirements for the CD-ROM version of Print Artist

Print Artist adds over 1,500 pictures to your hard drive. Once you've finished installing, you will not need the Print Artist CD to use the program. Print Artist requires you to have at least 14MB of Hard Drive space available to install. If you do not have 14MB available, Print Artist will not be able to install to your hard drive. Print Artist will examine your system and let you know if you don't have enough space available. If you don't have enough free space available, you may want to consider removing old software that you don't use before trying to install Print Artist.

Windows 95 and Print Area

When your documents are not printing centered on the page, you can use Print Artist to correct this problem for all your Windows programs. Run Print Artist, select any ready-made sign, then choose Print from the File menu. Click on the Print Area button, then click on the Printable Area Test button. Windows will print a test page that you can measure for proper alignment. Make sure that the Use Printable Area Values check box is unchecked, then Cancel from the Setup Printable Area dialog and the Print Control Panel / Preview dialog. Quit Print Artist, then click on the Start button, and choose Settings, Printers. Select the default printer with your mouse, then choose Properties from the File menu. Click on the Paper tab, then click on the Unprintable Area button. The Printable Area Test page from your printer should be measured for unprintable area, according to the instructions on the page. Enter these measurements in the Unprintable Area dialog box and click on OK. Click on the OK button in the printer Properties dialog to permanently save your settings. The settings you just set will help all your Windows programs, including Print Artist, to print accurately on the paper.

Font Limitations

The Print Artist program has a limit of 1200 vertices per polygon. TrueType or PostScript Type 1 font characters are allowed only one polygon, so the entire character must have no more than 1200 points. Furthermore, curve splines in the font data are broken up into separate points along the curve. There are very few fonts that can't work with PA (for example, a complicated font with a wood-cut effect, or one with frilly vines creeping in and out of the letters may be a bit too complex.)

Import Limitations

When importing EPS and WMF images (or pasting from the clipboard), Print Artist will sometimes say that the image is too complex to bring in. Try reducing the complexity of the image by using a 3rd. party drawing program to remove unnecessary curves and lines. Also, make the image smaller on your drawing program page before you make the EPS or WMF file.

Mouse Problems

Some users may experience problems when using Print Artist for Windows with Microsoft Mouse driver version 9.00. These problems entail the mouse cursor jumping from one location to another when opening or using the palettes. Sometimes users may find that going to the Mouse Control Panel and turning off the "Locate" command will fix this situation; otherwise, upgrading to version 9.01 of the driver should fix it.

Also, a program called "Animouse" that tries to take control of the mouse cursor is incompatible with Print Artist, and should not be run in conjunction with it.

Printer Notes

If you have a problem with perforation skipping when using the Epson 2550 driver under Windows 3.1, check its version number and make sure you have the latest one. The latest Epson 2550 driver from Microsoft (which is Universal Printer Driver V3.1.4, Epson LW 2550, v2.11) doesn't have this problem, and it also supports 360 x 360 printing.

If you are using a Citizen GSX 140 printer, you should use the latest Epson 2550 driver instead of the usual Citizen driver.

Print Artist does not automatically support nonstandard (not 8.5 x 11) tractor feed paper sources (for example, continuous business card or phone index card stock). If you are able to fit more than one business card on a standard size document, you might have luck manually aligning them to fit the cardstock you are using. Often, special stock length is evenly divisible by 11 inches, so you could fool the program into thinking it is dealing with regular tractor-feed paper and get the job done. In the Windows Printer Driver Setup in the Control Panel, choose "Cut Sheet on Tractor" under paper size.

Banner Printing

When you print a banner, check your Print Options to make sure that Margins are set to minimal and Rotate is set to Automatic. Also, make sure that the Use Printable Area Values in the Setup Printable Area dialog box is not set.

General Document Printing

The message "Click and drag to position document" on the Hot Preview status line means that you have additional control over where your document print area will actually be printed to a sheet of paper. You can print your document in the Center of a sheet, against the upper left margin, against the upper center margin, or against the upper right margin, depending on the

value chosen for Percent Size. Larger sizes mean fewer options.

Of Font Interest

The number of fonts you are shown when you use the Count button of Directory Setup is the MINIMUM number of fonts you have. Not shown in this count are any TrueType fonts you may have. These fonts will be available to you in Print Artist and can be accessed from the font palette. All effects are possible on them.

Cutting and Pasting

When you Cut or Copy any part of a Print Artist document, you put your work into a buffer which can then be pasted into any Windows application document which has a Paste menu item in the Edit menu. Such applications include (but are not limited to) word processors, spread sheets, and paint programs. However, colors of what you cut and paste will most likely be different than what they were in Print Artist, because each application has it's own particular color palette. See Import Limitations above for more information.

If the pasted graphic is too complex the image either may fail to paste or an error message may occur when the document is saved. If this happens remove the pasted graphic, make the original simpler or smaller in the source program, and add the graphic again through copy and paste.