

10. Printing

This chapter gives you an introduction to printing a file from your computer. It uses a Canon BJ-S330 printer as an example.

Once you have used an application to produce some work, you will probably want to print out what you have done. This chapter takes you through each stage involved in printing a file, from setting up the computer to producing the printed page.

This chapter assumes that you have already:

- ◆ connected your printer to your IYONIX pc (using any of the USB ports on the computer or to any USB hub connected to the computer) using the correct cable (see the sections *Setting up the Computer* and *adding external USB device*).

Note: *USB cables longer than about 10m exceed the USB specifications and may cause unpredictable problems.*

- ◆ set any options on the printer itself (check in the manual supplied with the printer to see whether you need to change any settings).
- ◆ switched the computer and printer on
- ◆ put some paper in the printer

Follow the instructions in this chapter carefully, and you should not have any trouble printing your work. If you get into difficulties, see the section **Problems with printing** or contact your supplier.

10.1 Setting up

Before you can print anything, you need to make sure that the computer knows what sort of printer it is connected to.

- ◆ Loading the *printer manager* application (!Printers). This is an application which controls the printing process.
- ◆ The printer manager has an auto configuration process so that if the printer connected to your computers is of a known type it will self install on the icon bar.
- ◆ If the printer manager does not recognise the printer then it will automatically offer you the option to chose a particular *printer definition file*. Choosing the corresponding file will enable you to configure your computer to understand your printer.
- ◆ Activating the printer (though this is not always necessary).
- ◆ Saving the printer option.

The following pages take you through this setting up process in detail

10.1.1 Display the applications directory

!Printers is stored in the Apps directory display. Click on the Apps icon on the Icon bar.



10.1.2 Load !Printers

Load !Printers by double clicking on its icon.



After a few seconds its icon will appear on the lefthand side of the Icon bar, ready to use.

10.1.3 Auto configuration

If the connected printer is recognised by the *printer manager* then it will auto configure your computer to understand the connected printer.

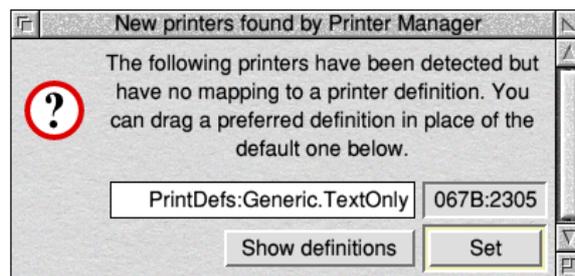


A printer icon will appear on the icon bar. You can now proceed to section 8 **Save choices**.

Note: *This feature is only available for USB printers. It will not work if you are using a parallel printer until you have installed the printer definition file (see section 4 below). If this software is being used on a computer with a parallel port this feature will not be able to make use of this feature.*

10.1.4 Install a new printer definition file

If the *printer manager* does not perform an auto configuration (see section above) it will pop up the *New printer* window.



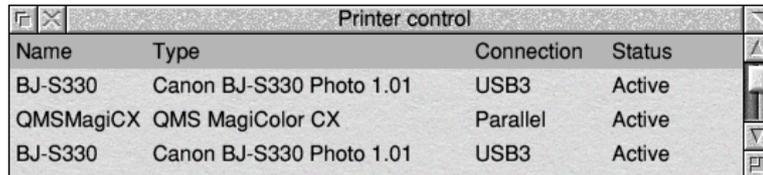
Click **Select** on the **Show Definitions** button and choose a *printer definition file* from the directories presented (in this case the BJ-S330 within the Canon directory) and drag it to the *writable icon*.

Note: *If your printer has been supplied with its own printer definition file insert the floppy disc or CD disc and drag the new printer definition file to the writable icon.*

This will display the path name of the new printer definition file. Now click select on **Set** and the printer manager will be configured for your printer.

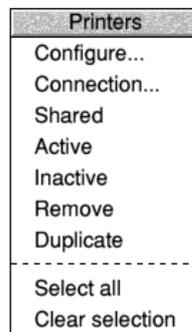
10.1.5 Set the printer configuration options

Click **Select** on the printer's name in the *Printer control window* (if it is not already selected) then click **Menu**.

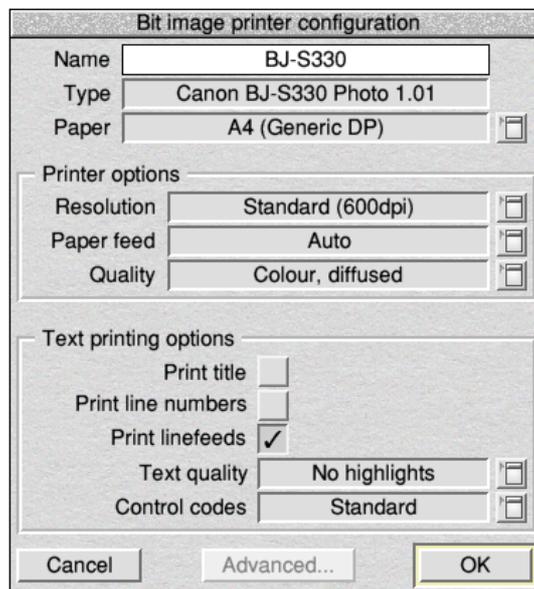


Name	Type	Connection	Status
BJ-S330	Canon BJ-S330 Photo 1.01	USB3	Active
QMSMagiCX	QMS MagiColor CX	Parallel	Active
BJ-S330	Canon BJ-S330 Photo 1.01	USB3	Active

This will display the *Printers menu*.



Choose **Configure...** to display the configuration dialogue box.

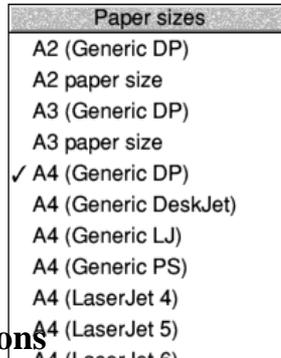


No matter what printer definition you loaded, you will find that a sensible default configuration has been supplied. If you wish to change any of these options, refer to the manual supplied with your printer.

The only options you will need to worry about for now in this window are, Resolution, Paper feed and Quality. The default options should be adequate but can be changed if

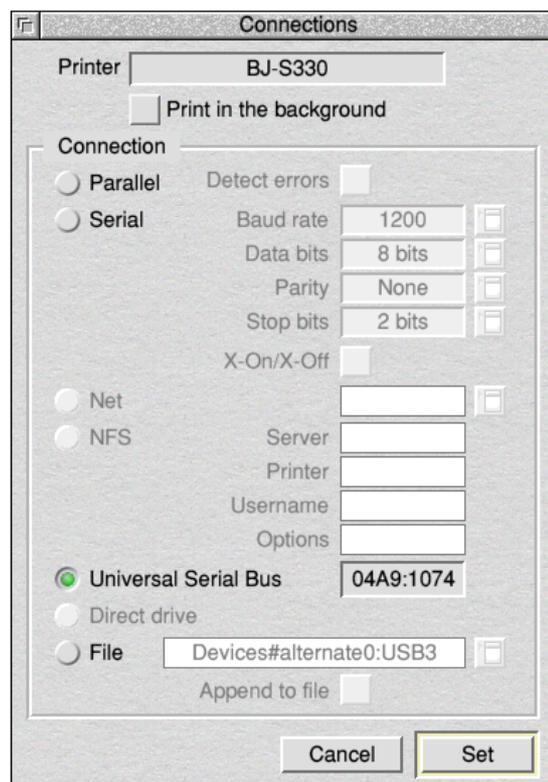
desired.

For a Canon BJ-S330 printer the paper size should be set to A4 (Generic DP).



10.1.6 Set the connections options

Click **Menu** on the printer name in the *Printer control* window to display the *Printers menu* again. This time choose **Connection...** you will see the *Connections window* displayed.



Click on the button to the left of the relevant Connection that your printer can use.

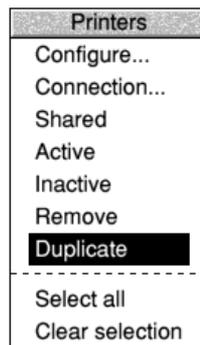
*In the case of the BJ-S330 it will automatically default to **Universal Serial Bus (USB)**.*

The details in the *Printer control window* will change to reflect your choice and click on **Set** to enable the settings.

10.1.7 Use Duplicate to run multiple printer configurations

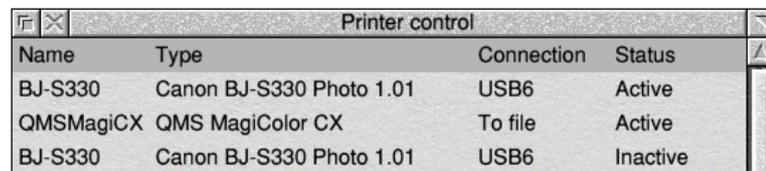
There are certain times when you may wish to print out in different configurations to your printer. For instance you may wish to use a high resolution colour printer to print out draft documents in low resolution.

To utilise this feature click on **Duplicate** in the *Printers menu*. This will add a new version of the same printer to the *Control window*. Follow the steps in section 5 to configure this to the required settings.



10.1.8 Activate the printer (if necessary)

Choose **Active** from the *Printers menu* (you will only need to do this if you drag more than one printer definition onto the *Printer control window* - the first printer is set to active by default).



Name	Type	Connection	Status
BJ-S330	Canon BJ-S330 Photo 1.01	USB6	Active
QMSMagiCX	QMS MagiColor CX	To file	Active
BJ-S330	Canon BJ-S330 Photo 1.01	USB6	Inactive

10.1.9 Save choices

It's worth saving the printer configuration so that you do not have to set up your printer every time you switch on the computer. Click **Menu** over the printer icon on the icon bar and choose **Save Choices**.



Next time you load !Printers it will automatically start up with this saved configuration.

10.2 Printing a file using the Print key on the keyboard

10.2.1 Load the Application

If it's not loaded already, load the application you used to create the file.

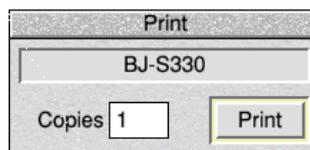
10.2.2 Open the file you want to print

Double-click on a file to open it.

If it is not open already, open the `TestFiles1` directory that you created in the previous chapter. Open the file `EditTest`.

10.2.3 Press the Print key on the keyboard

Some applications (like Edit) will print a file straight away at this point (others will display a Print dialogue box - click on **OK** or **Print** to print one copy).



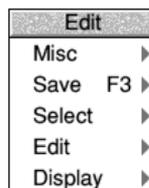
Your Edit file should print out fairly quickly - you won't see a dialogue box.

Most files should print using this method. If yours does not you will have to print it using the print option of the application's menu: see below.

10.3 Printing using the Print option

10.3.1 Display the application menu

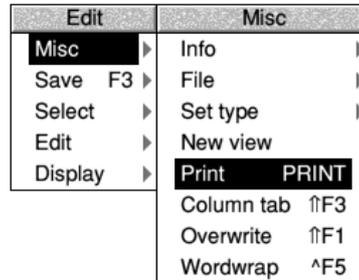
Click **Menu** inside the file's window.



Do this in the window for EditTest

10.3.2 Choose the print option

The **Print** option is not always in the top level menu of an application. You may have to search through the sub-menus to find it.



Again, you might see a print dialogue box, or your file might print straight away, depending on the application.

*In this case, choose **Misc/Print**. Your file should print out, but if things do not appear to be working, try some of the hints at the end of this chapter.*

10.4 Another way of printing

You can often print a file by dragging its icon and dropping it on the printer icon bar icon.

10.4.1 Load the application

If it is not already loaded, load the application you used to create the file.

10.4.2 Display the file's icon

Open the directory containing the file you want to print.

10.4.3 Print the file

Drag the file's icon over the printer icon on the icon bar and release the mouse button. Your file will print out.

Try this with the file EditTest.

Not all applications allow you to print in this way, however. Check either in the RISC OS User Guide or in the manual supplied with the application.

10.5 Problems with printing

The most common problems with printing occur in the setup stage. If your computer thinks it is connected to the wrong printer, you will have trouble. Take care with the following when you set up:

- ◆ Make sure that you are using the correct cable, and that it is not too long. You might get problems if the cable is longer than about 10m. This can sometime cause spurious characters to be printed.
- ◆ Make sure that you use the correct printer definition file. If there is not one that matches your printer, you will probably still be able to print - most printers have Canon, Epson, HP or Postscript compatible modes. Check in the printer's manual if this is the case, and then choose one of the Epson or HP printer definition files.
- ◆ Make sure that the configuration that you have chosen can actually be used by the printer. If in doubt try a lower resolution.
- ◆ Make sure that you have set the options correctly in the *Printers menu* and the Connection and Configuration windows.
- ◆ Make sure the printer is switch on and ready to be used (check in the printer's manual) and that it has not run out of paper or ink.

If you want to know what all the options in the *Printers menu* are for, or for anything else about printing, see the chapters entitled *Printing your files* and *Setting up printers* in the *RISC OS User Guide*.

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