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ImageWriter LQ: How Rated Speed Is Determined

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Here are the exact conditions under which the printer speed specifications of the ImageWriter LQ were measured, including hardware, software, and fonts used.

Hardware: Macintosh

Software: BASIC

Font: 10 cpi, in Draft fixed-pitch mode for the "draft" rating

Text: Shannon text consisting of characters and spaces

The "rated speed" refers to the printer speed at full carriage speed, excluding ramp time to accelerate and decelerate the carriage.

A program was written in BASIC and run on the Macintosh to print standard Shannon text (a combination of letters and spaces that approximates English), which all printer companies use to measure speed. This was done to minimize the Macintosh's processing time and the data transmission time.

The data sheet has additional speed ratings for the NLQ and LQ modes.

NOTE: Throughput ratings for the ImageWriter LQ are lower than speed ratings. Throughput ratings include ramp time, line feed time, etc. (For example, the throughput rating for the ImageWriter LQ in Draft mode is 155 cpi.)

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