

Bits of Bytes

Newsletter of the Pikes Peak Computer Application Society, Colorado Springs, CO

Volume XXXVIII

November 2018

Issue 11



The Prez Sez

by Toni Logan, President, P*PCompAS

I am happy to report that we have candidates for President, Treasurer and Board of Directors. We still need someone for Secretary and Vice-President. Thank you, Ann, for filling me in on the meeting last month which I was unable to attend.

As far as Program Chairman (Vice-President), Ann mentioned that she has lots of videos from Lynda.com and I am sure there are other members out there who could help. At least we will continue functioning which is a good thing.

In August I found out that I have Metastatic Breast Cancer which I am being treated for and that is why I could not get to the meeting last month. The heavy drugs that I am taking pretty much wipe me out at times. Thankfully, even though there is no cure, it is treatable. I was grateful for all the baseball games over the past few weeks to keep me company. Bob is a great caregiver and I am so grateful to have him.

Joe Nuvolini has just recently had a knee replacement, so send him good thoughts for a quick recovery. See you all at the meeting on Saturday, November 3. ☺



Meeting Minutes

by Greg Lenihan, Scribe, P*PCompAS

Vice President Cary Quinn called the 6 October 2018 membership meeting to order

Next P*PCompAS meeting: Saturday, 3 November 2018

No topic has been announced.

at 9:00 am in the absence of President Toni Logan. Coffee is still compliments of Starbucks. The minutes from last month were approved.

Our next breakfast is on 20 October.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS

Jeff Towne says he does seminars on Windows 10 and streaming videos (using a Roku or Fire Stick). Jeff says he is willing to give us a presentation. Cary asked the membership how many had done DNA tests, because he is interested in one for himself.

OFFICER REPORTS

Vice President Cary Quinn says we will view an APCUG video today for our presentation.

Treasurer Bill Gardner says we have \$3782.39 in savings and \$209.01 in checking.

Newsletter Editor Greg Lenihan said the next deadline for the newsletter is 20 October.

Membership Chair Ann Titus says our dues for current members are paid up for next year by an anonymous donor.

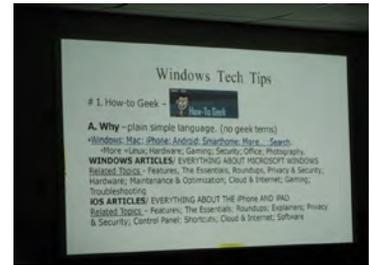
Barista David George got around a power problem in the back of the room by moving the coffee setup to the side of the room, thus avoiding a catastrophe among the membership.

Nominating Committee Chair Gene Bagenstos said he had contacted everyone in person or by phone. We have openings for president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Afterwards, Cary Quinn threw in his hat for president next year, and Chuck Harris volunteered to be treasurer.

APCUG Rep Joe Nuvolini said the deadline for website and newsletter contest submissions had passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mike Kelly from Lake George was a guest. He read about us in *The Courier*, which is a local paper.



PROGRAM

Cary Quinn showed us a video by Jere Minich from the APCUG that mentioned many good sites for news, information, and tips. ☺

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P*PCompAS

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Drawings: Bob Logan
Editor: Greg Lenihan
Librarian: Paul Godfrey
Membership: Ann Titus

Committees

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Hospitality: Pat Krieger
Programs: Cary Quinn
Publicity: Cary Quinn
Nominating: Gene Bagenstos

Board of Directors

John Pearce
Joe Nuvolini
Peter Rallis
Paul Godfrey
Ann Titus

What's the Difference Between Your Modem and Router?

by Shannon Drake at Komando.com (tip from 10/2/18)

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Whether you're calling your internet provider for help or talking to your kid, getting technical support can be frustrating. Between all the abbreviations (LTE! Mbps!) and the secret code language for all the computer stuff, you just want a translator to explain why the Wi-Fi is down. Sometimes even two little grey boxes that look the same do completely different things.

What's a modem? What's a router? Why does it matter when the Wi-Fi keeps going down?

Don't get your Ethernet cables in a tangle! America's digital goddess is here to help with some simple explanations for all that frustrating language.

Your home network

Before we talk about modems, we need to talk about networks. People used to just have a single family computer in the living room for internet access. That may still be the case, but everything wants out on the web these days. Everyone may have laptops and tablets, then smartphones all need an internet connection, even the TV needs a way to talk to the cable company if you want to watch your shows. You might even have a smart speaker like Alexa or Google Home that helps make life easier. Whether you know it or not, you have a network.

The network of networks

If your home network wants to connect to all the other networks out

there -- be it your best friend across the country or your streaming provider so you can watch movies -- they all have to be speaking the same language, and those requests and information all have to get from place to place. The internet is just a network of networks talking to each other.

What does a modem do?

Your modem is the pathway for all your devices to speak with networks across the world. When you tell Netflix you want to start a movie, or your toddler wants to see the next YouTube video, that device sends out a request.

"Modem" means "modulator-demodulator." It sounds pretty Star Trek, but what it does isn't so space age. A modem takes that request to play a movie or watch a video and translates it into signals that can travel across the wires that connect your house to your internet provider, and from there into the wider world.

Once the answers or information comes back to your house -- "Okay, here's the movie!" -- something has to translate it from signals that can cross a wire back into that romantic comedy you're finally getting to watch.

So what about routers?

However, the journey doesn't end there. Once the data arrives and your modem decodes it, it has to

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P*PCompAS welcomes any comments, letters, or articles from members and non-members alike. Please send any articles to the editor (see last page for address). The editor reserves the right to reject, postpone, or edit for space, style, grammar, and clarity of any material submitted.

How to Manage a Printer in Windows 10

By Chris Hoffman, reprinted with permission from HowToGeek.com

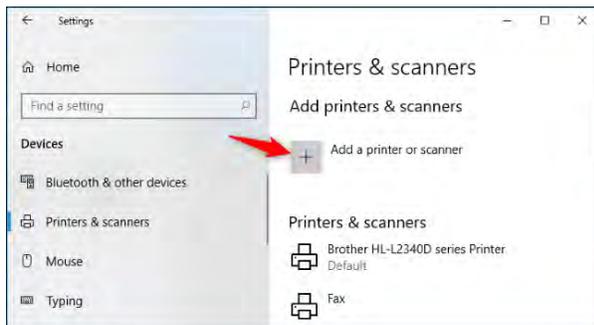
Original article at: <https://www.howtogeek.com/362534/how-to-manage-a-printer-in-windows-10/>

Windows 10 has a new Settings window for configuring printers, but you can still use the old Control Panel tools, too. Here's what you need to know about installing, configuring, sharing, and troubleshooting printers on Windows.

How to Add a Printer

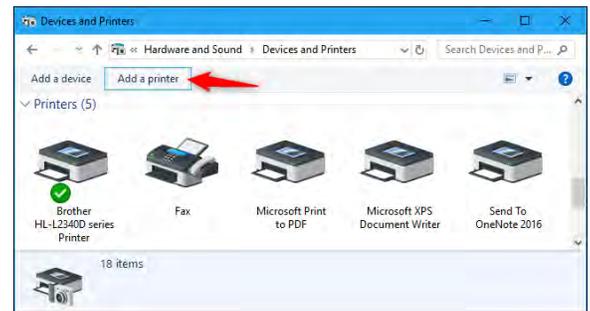
To add a printer, head to Settings > Devices > Printers & Scanners. Click the "Add a Printer or Scanner" button to search for nearby printers, whether they're hooked up to your PC or connected to the network.

You should see your printer's name appear here. If Windows doesn't find your printer automatically, click the "The printer that I want isn't listed" link that appears. This opens the old Add Printer dialog, which lets you scan for older types of printers, directly connect to network printers, and add printers with custom settings.



You can also use the old interface at Control Panel > Hardware and Sound > Devices and Printers. Click the "Add a Printer" button to get started.

However you install the printer, Windows will probably download the necessary printer drivers on the fly. If this doesn't work, visit the printer manufacturer's website to download and install the appropriate drivers or software package for your model of printer. For some printers, such as all-in-one printers, you might also need to visit the manufacturer's website for drivers and apps that let you access the added functionality.



You can remove a printer from here, too, if you like. In the Settings window, click a printer and click "Remove Device." In the Control Panel, right-click a printer and select "Remove Device."

How to Change Printing Preferences

To change your printer's settings, head to either Settings > Devices > Printers & Scanners or Control Panel > Hardware and Sound > Devices and Printers. In the Settings interface, click a printer and then click "Manage" to see more options.

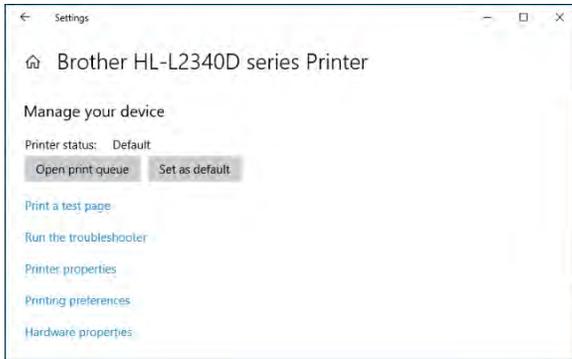
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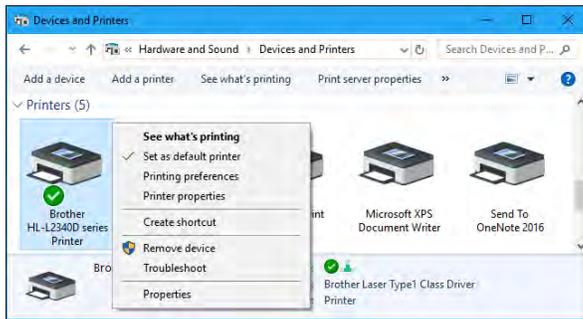
The digerati met for breakfast on October 20th, and wondered where Nuvo was. Some said he was in-knee-briated. He needs to try harder than that. He hasn't got a leg to stand on. Everyone wanted him to break a leg. Sorry, but this isn't a joint effort. There may not be any knee slappers here.



Manage Printer (Continued from page 3)

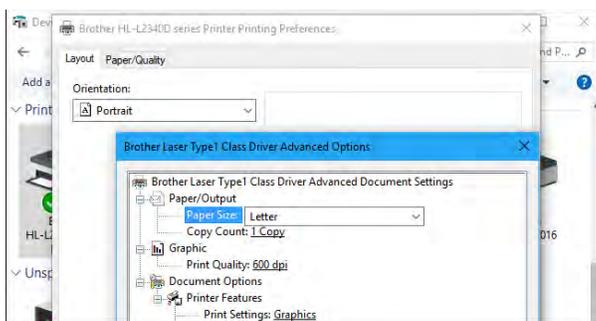


In the Control Panel, right-click a printer to find various options.



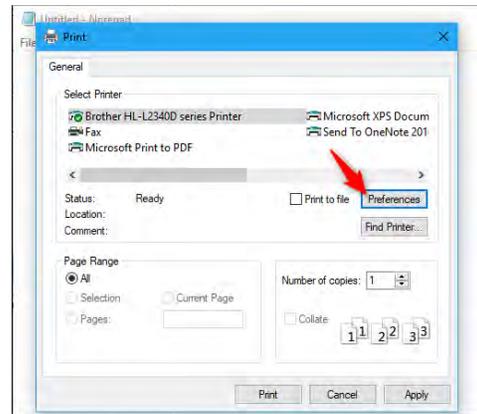
To change how the printer prints, click the "Printing Preferences" option in the Settings window or context menu. You'll see a variety of options for controlling your prints here, and the settings you see will depend on the ones your printer supports.

For example, if you have a color printer, you'll see options for choosing between color and black and white. You might also see options for choosing the tray from which the printer grabs the paper, selecting the orientation of the document (portrait or landscape), and changing print quality settings. Don't miss the "Advanced" button, which offers many additional settings.



You can also access these settings while printing. Just select a printer in the Print window

and then click the "Preferences" button. Note that some applications have their own print dialogs, so this option might not always be present or the window might look different.

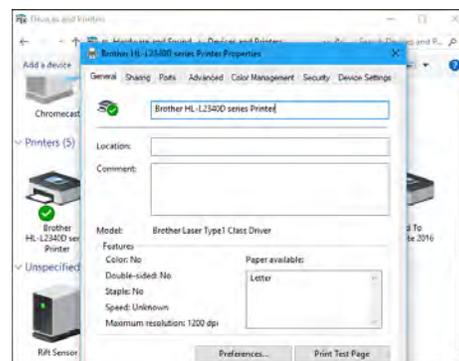


How to Change Printer Device Settings

To configure your printer device, click "Printer Properties" instead of "Printing Preferences" from the context menu after right-clicking a printer.



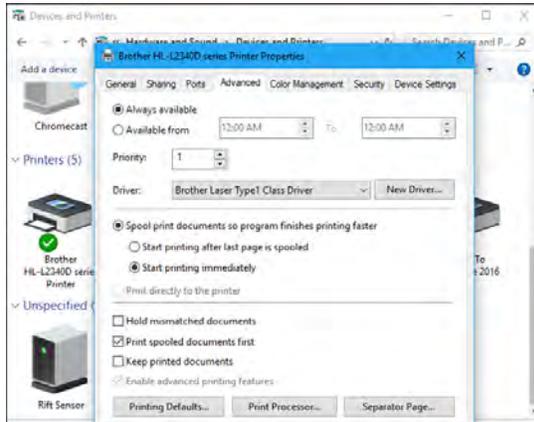
The General tab of the properties window provides information about the printer's features and what drivers it's using. You can change the printer's name or add location details and comments. For example, you might want to enter a location like "Main Office" or "Second Floor Copy Room" so people can see exactly where a shared network printer is. The "Print Test Page" button here lets you quickly print a test page.



Continued on page 5

Manage Printer (Continued from page 4)

On the “Advanced” pane, you’ll even see an option that lets you choose when the printer is available. For example, if you only want to use your printer during business hours, you could select 9 am to 5 pm here. People wouldn’t be able to print to the printer outside of your selected hours, which is especially useful if you’ve configured it as a network printer and don’t want people printing to it during off hours.

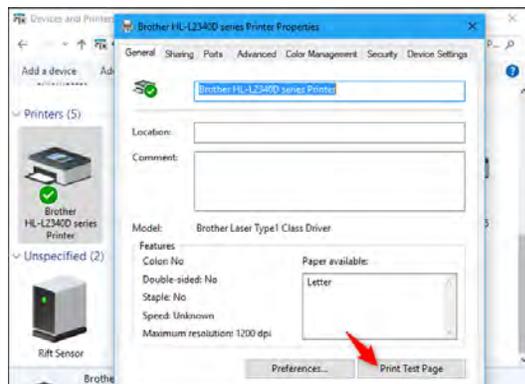


How to Print a Test Page

You can quickly check whether your printer is working and configured properly by printing a test page. Locate the printer in Settings > Devices > Printers & Scanners, click it, click the “Manage” button, and click the “Print a test page” link.



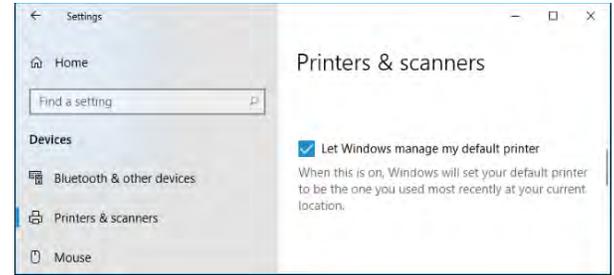
From the Control Panel interface, right-click a printer and select “Printer Properties.” Click the “Print Test Page” button.



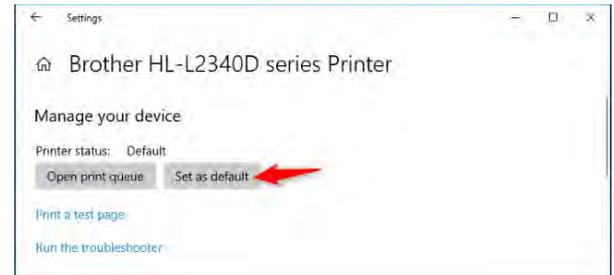
How to Set Your Default Printer

By default, Windows 10 automatically manages which printer is the default. It sets your default printer as the last printer you last printed to—in other words, whenever you select a printer and print to it, Windows 10 makes that your default printer.

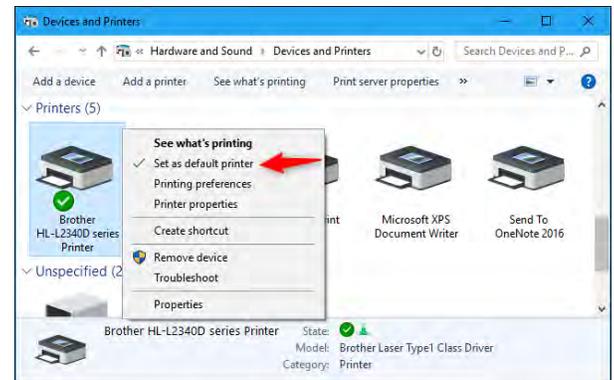
To change this, head to Settings > Devices > Printers & Scanners and uncheck the “Let Windows manage my default printer” option.



To choose your default printer, click a printer in the Printers & Scanners list, click “Manage,” and click the “Set as Default” button.



You can also right-click a printer in the Control Panel’s Devices and Printers window and select “Set as Default Printer” to set it as your default.



How to Manage Your Print Queue

Each printer on your system has a print queue. When you print a document, that print job is stored in the print queue before it’s sent to the

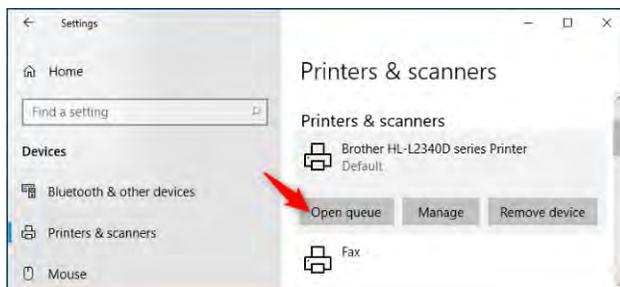
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Manage Printer (Continued from page 5)

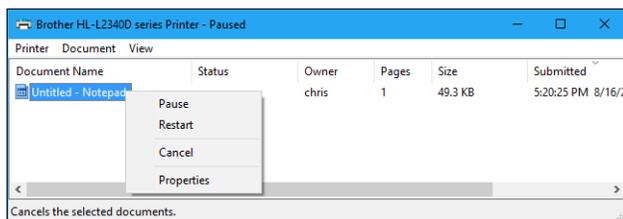
printer and finishes printing.

In some cases, you may need to pause your print queue to temporarily cease printing, remove individual jobs from the print queue to cancel printing them, or check that everything has printed. You can do all this from the print queue window.

To open this, head to Settings > Devices > Printers & Scanners, click the printer for which you want to view the queue, and then click “Open Print Queue.” In the Control Panel interface, you can right-click a printer and select “See What’s Printing.” You might also see a printer icon in the notification area while printing; clicking the icon also opens the print queue.

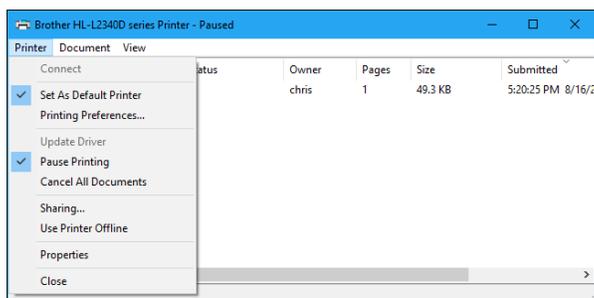


Each pending print job appears in the queue. If no documents are printing, the list will be empty. You can right-click a job to cancel, pause, or restart it. Sometimes print jobs can get “stuck,” and you may need to [delete them and try again](#).



You can also click the Printer menu and use the various options to manage your entire queue. For example, you can click Printer > Pause Printing to temporarily pause all print jobs until you unpauses them, or click Printer > Cancel All Documents to cancel all pending print jobs.

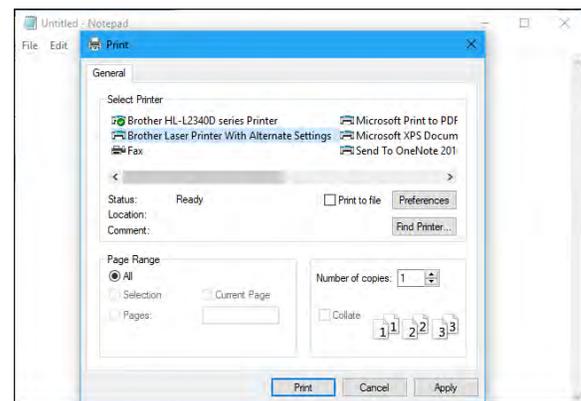
RELATED: [How to Cancel or Delete a Stuck Print Job in Windows](#)

**How to Create Multiple Printer Profiles**

Normally, you must go into your printer’s preferences or properties to change various settings. However, this can be inconvenient when you have multiple groups of settings you want to toggle between. For example, perhaps you have a color printer on which you sometimes print high-quality color photos and sometimes print lower detail black and white documents.

Rather than toggling the settings back and forth every time you use the printer, you can [add multiple printer devices that point at the same underlying physical printer](#). Think of these as multiple printer profiles you can select between while printing documents.

RELATED: [How to Install the Same Printer Twice \(With Different Settings\) on Windows](#)

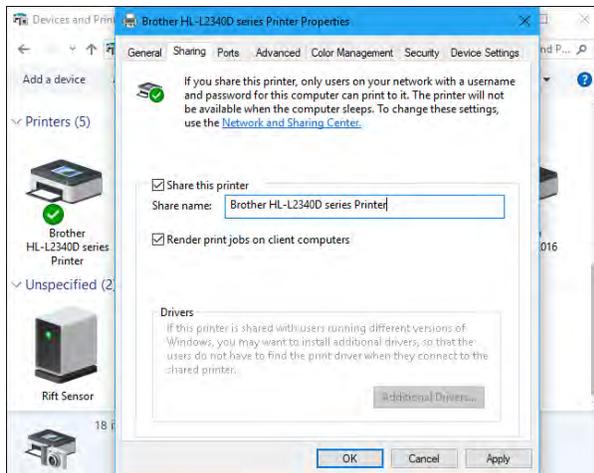
**How to Set Up a Shared Printer**

Windows 10’s April 2018 Update [removed the HomeGroup feature](#), which was introduced in Windows 7 for sharing files and printers on a local network. However, it’s still possible to share printers on your local network.

This is primarily useful if you have a printer connected directly to your PC, but you want to print to it from other computers on your network. If you have a network printer that connects directly to your network via Wi-Fi or an Ethernet cable, this shouldn’t be necessary.

To [share a printer](#), open the printer’s Properties dialog. To do so via the new interface, head to Settings > Devices > Printers & Scanners, click the printer’s name, click “Manage,” and then click “Printer Properties.” To do it in the old way, head to Control Panel > Hardware & Sound > Devices and Printers, right-click the printer, and then select “Printer Properties.” Click the “Sharing” tab, check the “Share this printer” option, and give the printer a name.

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Manage Printer (Continued from page 6)

With the default settings, people on your local network can find the printer—but they'll need the username and password of an account on your computer to connect to it. The printer should be automatically detected as an available printer in the normal Add Printer interface. Bear in mind that the printer won't be available while your computer is asleep.

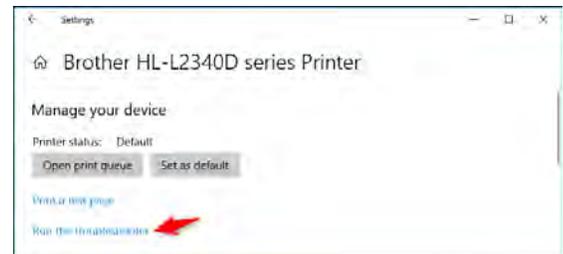
RELATED: [How to Set Up a Shared Network Printer in Windows 7, 8, or 10](#)

To share a printer over the Internet—for example, to print to your home printer when you're away from home—[set up Google Cloud Print](#).

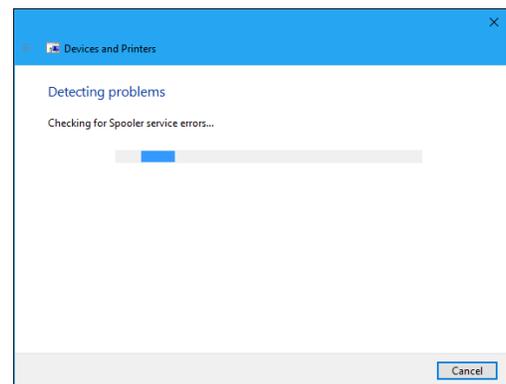
How to Troubleshoot a Printer

If you're having trouble with a printer, you might need to [do some troubleshooting](#). The basics are pretty obvious: Make sure the printer is powered on and connected to your computer—or your Wi-Fi or Ethernet network, if it's a network printer. Ensure the printer has enough paper and check if it has sufficient ink or toner. Ink and toner status may appear in the printer's settings window, or you may have to view this information by reading a screen on the printer itself. You might also need to install printer drivers from your printer's manufacturer. To troubleshoot the printer from within Windows 10, head to Settings > Devices > Printers and Scanners, click the printer, click "Manage," and click "Run Troubleshooter." You can also locate the printer in the Devices and Printers window in the Control Panel, right-click it, and select "Troubleshoot."

RELATED: [How to Troubleshoot Printer Problems on a Windows PC](#)



The printer troubleshooter checks for a variety of issues that could cause printing problems on your PC and tried to fix any it finds.



If the printer has a built-in display, check the display to see if it's reporting an error message. If you're not sure what the error messages mean, try plugging them into a Web search engine or looking them up in your printer's manual.

You might also need to run various diagnostic functions on the printer itself. Check your printer's manual for more information on its diagnostic features. ☺

NOMINATION REPORT

By Gene Bagenstos,
Nominating Committee

The following members have volunteered. to run as club officers for 2019:

PRESIDENT

- Cary Quinn
- Joe Nuvolini

VICE PRESIDENT

- Jeff Towne

TREASURER

- Chuck Harris

SECRETARY

- Still open

BOARD MEMBER

- Harvey McMinn
- Bob Blackledge

Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the election. ☺

Security Updates Are Even Breaking Your Printer (On Purpose)

By Chris Hoffman, reprinted with permission from HowToGeek.com

Original article at: <https://www.howtogeek.com/fyi/security-updates-are-even-breaking-your-printer-on-purpose/>

Printer manufacturers hate third-party ink cartridges. They want you buying the expensive, official ones. Epson and HP have issued sneaky “updates” that break these cheaper cartridges, forcing you to buy the expensive ones.

HP pioneered this technique back in 2016, rolling out a “security update” to its OfficeJet and OfficeJet Pro printers that activated a helpful new feature—helpful for HP’s bottom line, at least. Now, before printing, the printer would verify you’re using new HP ink cartridges. If you’re using a competitor’s ink cartridge or a refilled HP ink cartridge, printing would stop. After some flaming in the press, HP [sort-of apologized](#), but not really.

Epson is the latest company doing something bad, according to the Electronic Frontier Foundation. As the [EFF](#) puts it:

Now, Epson has followed suit: in late 2016 or early 2017, Epson started sending deceptive updates to many of its printers. Just like HP, Epson disguised these updates as routine software improvements, when really they were poison pills, designed to downgrade printers so they could only work with Epson’s expensive ink systems.

The EFF learned of this via a reader in Texas, and has reported this behavior to

the Texas Attorney General. If you live in another state and you had a similar problem with your Epson printer, the EFF urges you to [write in](#) so your complaint can be forwarded to your state’s Attorney General.

We recommend against buying inkjet printers, which are generally a huge pain. If you need to print documents, [get a laser printer](#) like the [Brother HL-L2350DW](#), which can handle black-and-white documents with ease—and with more economical toner instead of ink cartridges.

If you want to print photos, consider [using a photo-printing service](#) rather than buying an expensive photo printer, pricey photo paper, and endless overpriced ink cartridges.

Thanks to [Motherboard](#) for calling attention to this news. ☺



Modem/Router (Continued from page 2)



get where it’s going. There are usually many different streams with lots of different information, so you want to watch Mamma Mia, but your son is trying to do homework and your daughter is playing

Fortnite. If his Social Studies pops up where your Abba songs should be, things are going to get tense. That’s where routers come in. A router sends the incoming data where it needs to go and keeps track of which stream of data goes where. It’s the traffic cop that keeps everyone from finding out about your secret love of musicals or keeps everyone from being subjected to a long lecture on the War of 1812.

Routers also handle a lot of the work of managing your home network. They do things like run

the Wi-Fi connections, use a firewall to keep out hackers, and manage the quality of service, so your movie stays in high definition even when someone else is downloading more homework.

Many internet providers nowadays use a box that combines both functions. The wire from your wall might go to a combination modem and router, which decodes the traffic and sends it where it needs to go without you having to lift a finger. Sometimes, technology is amazing. At least until the [Wi-Fi goes down](#). ☺

Online Music Radio Stations

By Les Nasman, Editor, Bristol Village Computer Club, OH, BVCC Newsletter, <http://bvres.org/bvcchome.html>, webmaster (at) bvres.org



If you have a computer connected to the Internet there are thousands of radio stations to choose from. Here are some examples.

Classical Music Stations

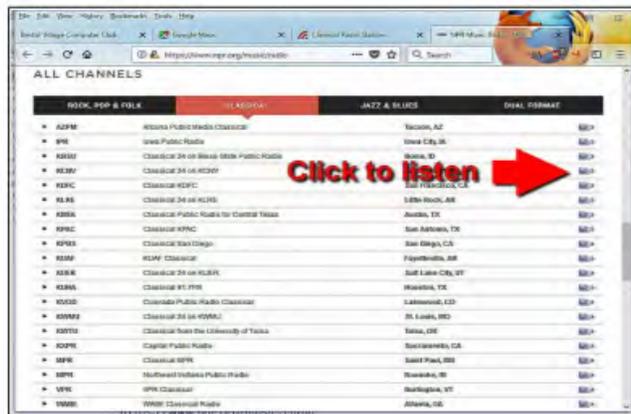
<https://www.internet-radio.com/stations/classical/>



The scroll down list will change from time to time. Observe the Genres note for each listing. Just click on the play button to start the music. Once the music is playing, the play button becomes a pause button. You can keep the music playing while you open other program windows.

National Public Radio – NPR

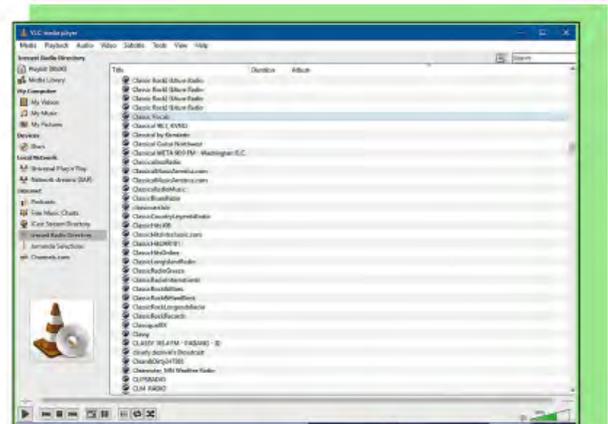
<https://www.npr.org/music/radio>



Once you have opened the NPR web site, scroll down to see a long list of local NPR stations. Observe that there is a menu bar that provides selections in different Genres. Click on the tool on the right side of the list to open the web page for that station.

Use VLC Media Player

The free VLC Media Player program can also be used to listen to radio stations around the world.



- ✓ When the **VLC Media Player** is open, select **View, Playlist** from the *menubar*.
- ✓ *In the Playlist, select Icecast Radio Directory.*

This opens a long list of radio stations around the world. You are on your own to experiment to see if you can find something interesting. After you open a radio broadcast, you can minimize VLC and keep it running in the background while doing other things on your computer. 😊



P*PCompAS Newsletter
Greg Lenihan, Editor
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Colorado Springs, CO 80920
e-mail: glenihan@comcast.net



Coming Events:

Next Membership Meeting: 3 Nov beginning at 9 am (see directions below)

Next Breakfast Meeting: 17 Nov @ 8 am, Country Buffet, 801 N. Academy Blvd.

Newsletter Deadline: 17 Nov

Check out our Web page at: <http://ppcompas.apcug.org>

