

Down load a font to CLP printers.

This information is to aid users where a True Type font option is not available or is not working correctly. CLP 1, 2 and 6000 (excludes 6401) printers can not store True Type fonts at all.

First things first, you need to convert a font to a format the printer can work with. This is usually HP format fonts. There are several font converters on the market; the one we have used here is FonMaker from Pyrus (<http://www.pyrus.com/html/fonmaker.html>). It converts a True Type font to HP format (filename .sfp). The conversion process requires you to select a number of HP format point sizes whilst keeping the font style of each one of them. Please remember it produces fonts at 300dpi which means the text output is 50% larger than is actually required. I am sure experimentation will provide an acceptable size for most applications

Once you have your point sizes (described as a font or fonts from now on) you need to be able to send them to the printer. I have used a small batch file which enables you to send both the "Get Ready command" and the "font file" as a pair, using the Dos "copy to" command. This is normally sent via the dos window. Users of Win 2000 or XP can get to this by clicking on "Start", "Run" typing "CMD" and then clicking the OK button.

For CLP 1, 2, 6000 and the 7202e printers where there is no Flash ram *.

The font is stored in the printers default memory, location "C" (lost if you turn off the printer). Each point size of the required font has a specific number starting from 100. Downloaded HP fonts can be stored in the printer as long as they have an ID of 100 and above. Font numbers 0-49 are the printers own internal fonts 50-99 are for True Type fonts.

*There is an alternative here; we sell a 4Meg flash ram card, which allows you to permanently store the font/s even if the printer is turned of. If the card is used the memory location is usually B (Citizen part number 2000350).

CLP 521/621, 7201e, CLP 8301 and 9000 series have a Flash ram available and the files can be sent to these printers by simply modifying the "Get Ready Command" to send the files to the correct memory location (these printers also accept True Type font download)

Flash Ram Memory location depends on emulation used.

CLP 521 and 621 – DM I – "G", DM 4 – "B"

CLP 7201e – D

CLP 8301 – DM W – "G", DM 8 – A or B (see above)

CLP 9000 series – DM I – "G", DM 4 – A or B (see above)

Commands used here.

␣ XD← *c100D

mix.prn – The “get ready” to receive the font command

([02] XD [27]*c100D)

1 2 3 4

1 - STX

2 - Send file to the D memory location (as used in the CLP 7201e)

3 - esc

4 – font id (in this case 100)

Not very well described in any manuals Citizen or Datamax provide

Fonttest1.txt – file containing the text to be printed and the font ID number where the printer can find the required font.

Fonttest1.txt

␣ L{note2}

D11

191110001030030 This is biggest

191100403030230 Blackadder 8pt {note1}

191110103030030 This is the smallest

191100400870248 Blackadder 14pt {note1}

Q0001

E

Note - 1911"100"01030030. The number in quotes is the font id stored in the printer and where the printer must look for the style of font to be printed. Each font has its own id number, therefore Blackadder 8pt has an id of 100, Blackadder 10pt has an id of 101. In order for this function to work correctly you need to know which point size is allocated to which id. Once this is working the software can take over and the actual user need not know anything special is happening.

Note1 – This is using the Printers own Triumvirate font to tell you what is actually being printed.

Note2 – The square box here is actually the STX command (02)

Fontauto.bat – This is the batch file containing the “get ready” command and the font being assigned to it. If you look into my sample you will find two “get ready” files mix.prn & mix1.prn, plus the two fonts (I have used blackadder 8 and 14pt). You will note there is a pause between the two pairs of files which just reminds you the files are being sent to the printer one set at a time.

Initially I suggest you send these files to the printer manually i.e. the “get ready” command and then the font, for each font you want to use, then send the “fonttest.txt” to get the label to print. This proves things are working.

Now substitute your local fonts using the same process to ensure everything is working correctly. Hopefully this should prove all is working well.

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You will also find a file called "clear.prn", this will clear your printers flash ram of stored fonts. Try it after you have tested the files above to ensure you are able to clear the printer buffer. Resend fonttest.txt and the only thing that should print is the font description on the right of the label.

Actual process of sending the attached files to the printer.

Initial testing in Dos window from the Dos prompt:

Have the printer turned on and the LCD showing "Online", then type

Copy mix.prn LPT1

Copy blackadderITC_8.sfp LPT1

Copy mix1.prn LPT1

Copy blackadderITC_14.sfp LPT1

Copy fonttest1.txt LPT1 (this should print 4 items on the page, two showing the text explaining the font type the other two will be the "black adder font in two different point sizes")

The attached zip file (font.zip) contains a bat file, which takes care of the first 4 lines of "copy to" commands.