



.com Solutions Inc.

Printer Maintainer - Usage Manual

Printer Maintainer - Usage Manual

1	Overview	
1.1	Overview - Printer Maintainer	4
2	Installation	
2.1	Windows Installation - Printer Maintainer	6
2.2	macOS Installation - Printer Maintainer	7
3	Configuration	
3.1	Configuration Options & GUI Explanation	9
4	Configuring a Windows Scheduled Job	
4.1	Using the Windows Task Scheduler	20
5	Configuring a macOS Scheduled Event	
5.1	Using the Scheduler App From: www.macscheduler.net	34
6	Updates	
6.1	Checking for Updates...	42
7	Troubleshooting	
7.1	Troubleshooting	45

Overview

Overview - Printer Maintainer

This document explains the operation of the Printer Maintainer utility and how to configure a scheduled job on Windows or macOS to run it at regular intervals.

The Printer Maintainer app is designed to be scheduled to run at regular intervals in order to prevent inkjet printer heads from drying out and getting clogged.

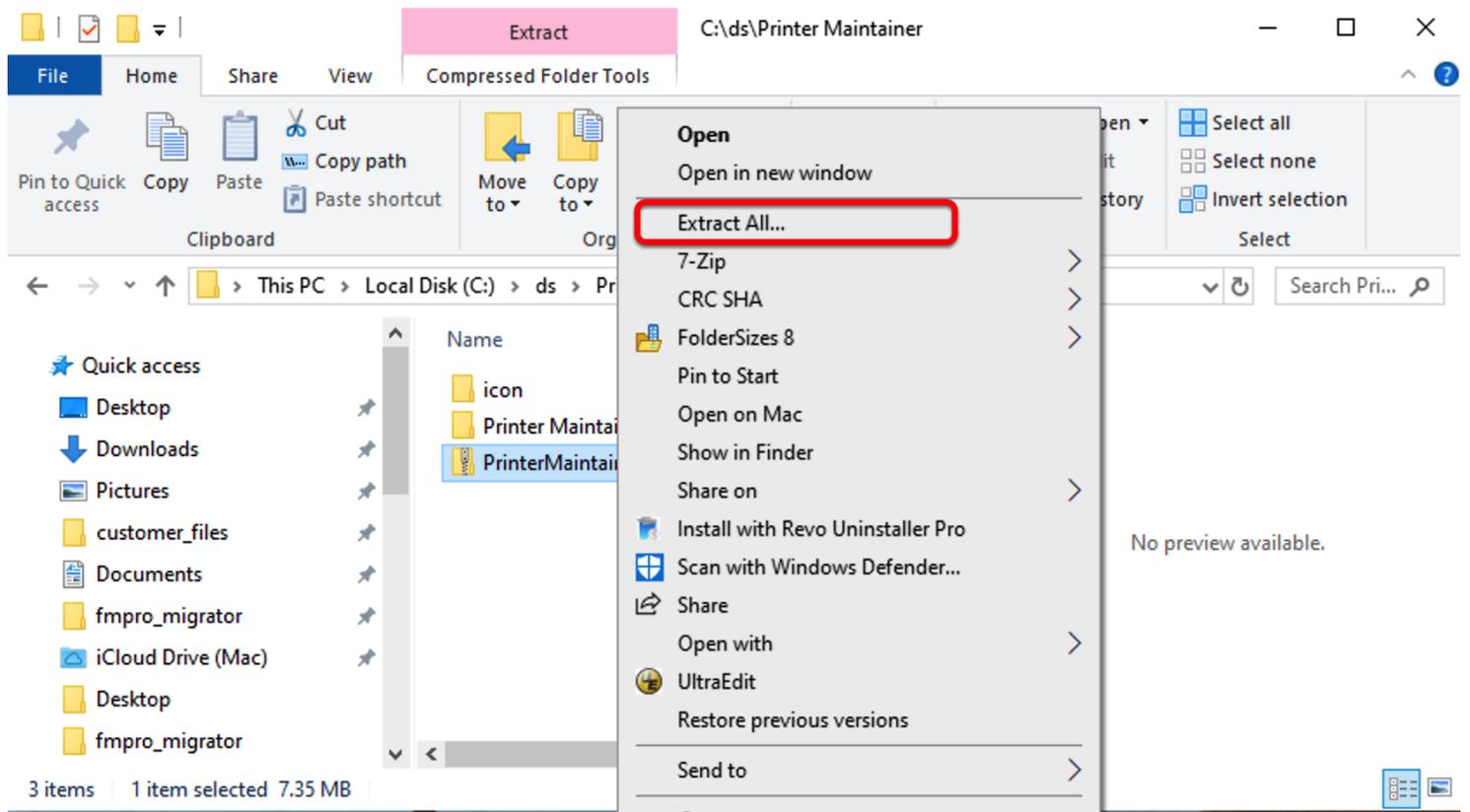
Manual Revision 3
Printer Maintainer 1.32
4/5/2020

[Revision Notes: Added updated screenshots, information about configuring multiple printers, and troubleshooting printer naming on macOS.]

Installation

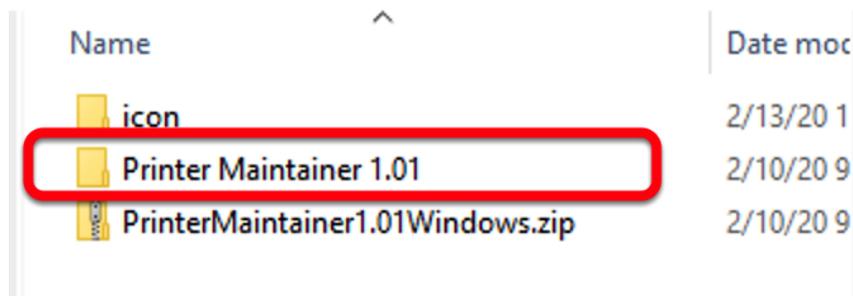
Windows Installation - Printer Maintainer

Unzip Application



The Printer Maintainer utility is delivered as a zip file. Right click on the zip file, and select Extract All... from the contextual menu to unzip the file.

Move Application Folder (Optional)

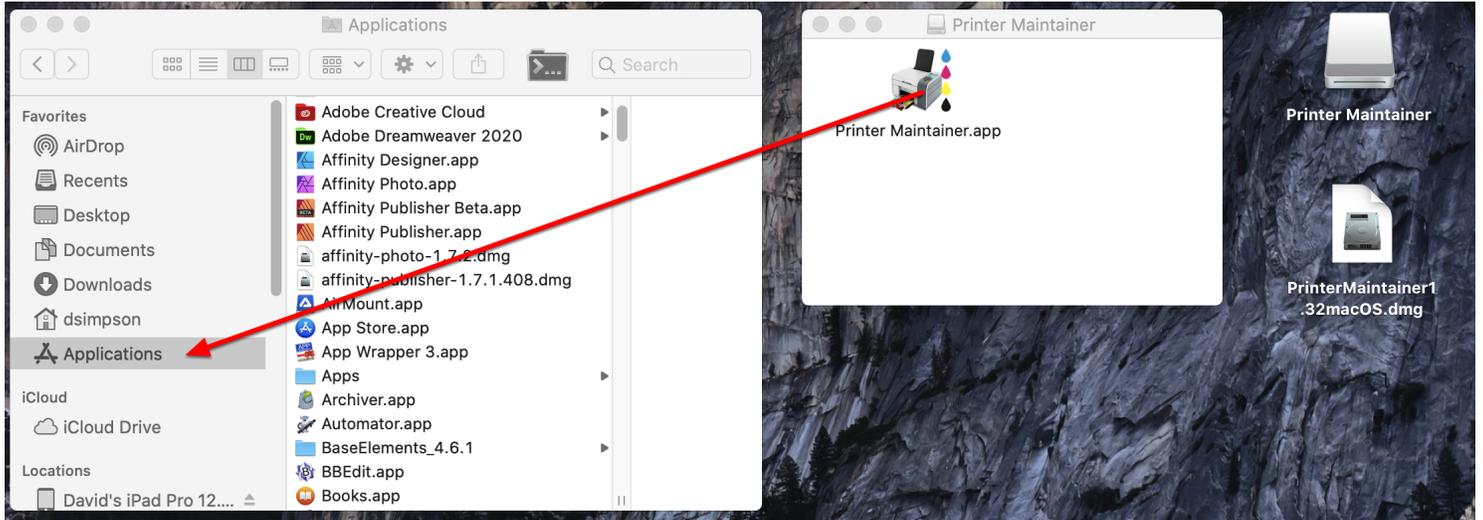


You can move the application folder to the Program files folder or wherever else you find convenient. No installation application is required.

The first time the app runs, it will create a preferences folder named Printer Maintainer within the Documents directory. A preferences file named Printer_Maintainer_Prefs.json will be created within this folder.

macOS Installation - Printer Maintainer

Open DMG File



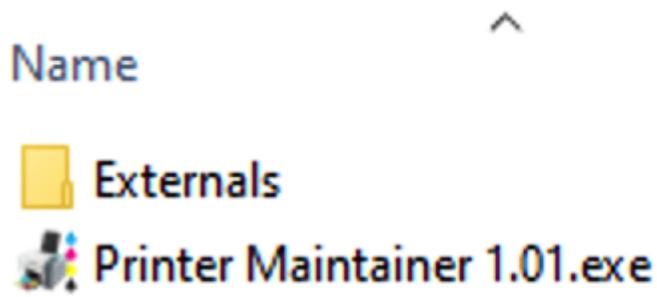
Open the PrinterMaintainerX.XXmacOS.dmg file, and drag the app to your Applications folder. The Printer Maintainer app is a 64-bit app, notarized by Apple to prevent error messages when launching.

Note: The version number is not included in the name of the app, so that it can be updated without requiring a change to the job scheduler.

Configuration

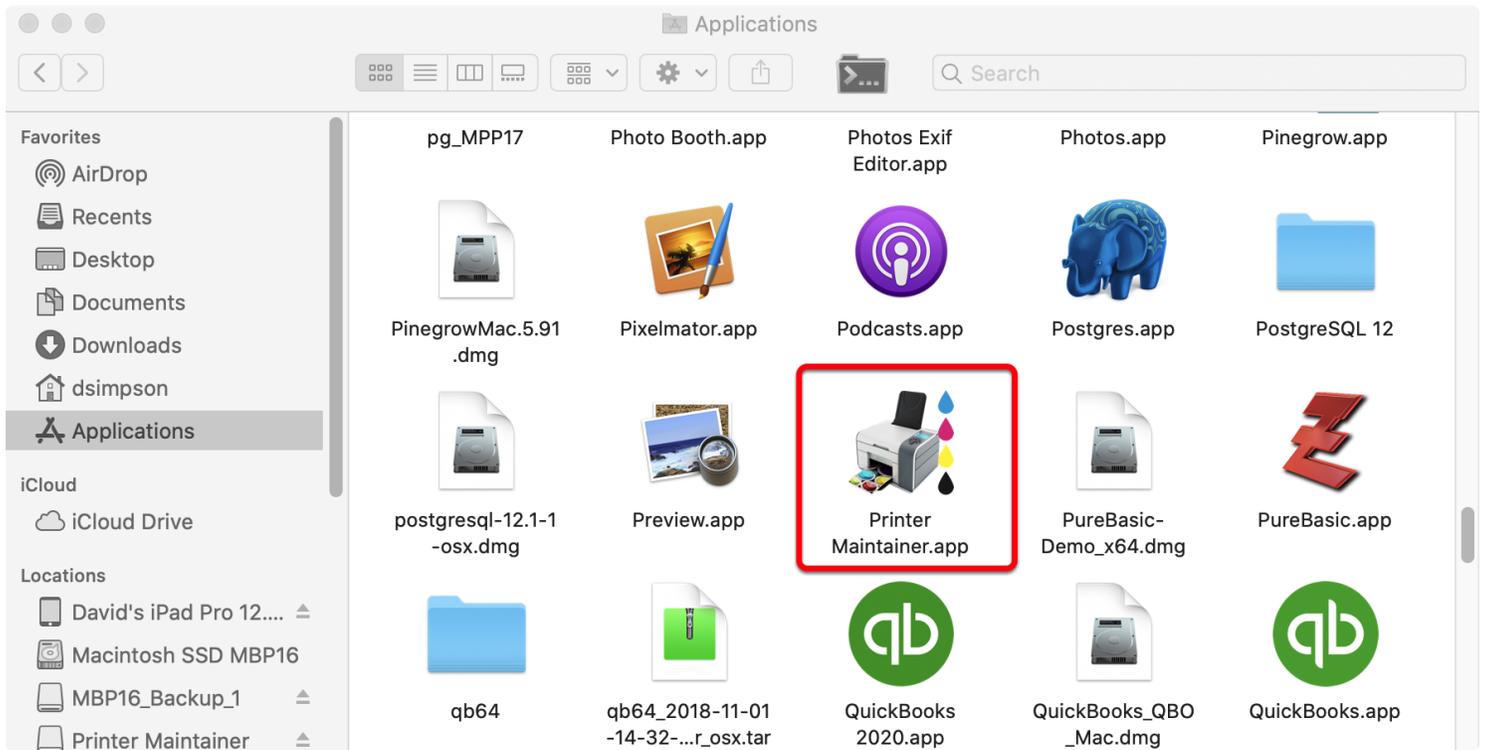
Configuration Options & GUI Explanation

Launching Printer Maintainer - Windows



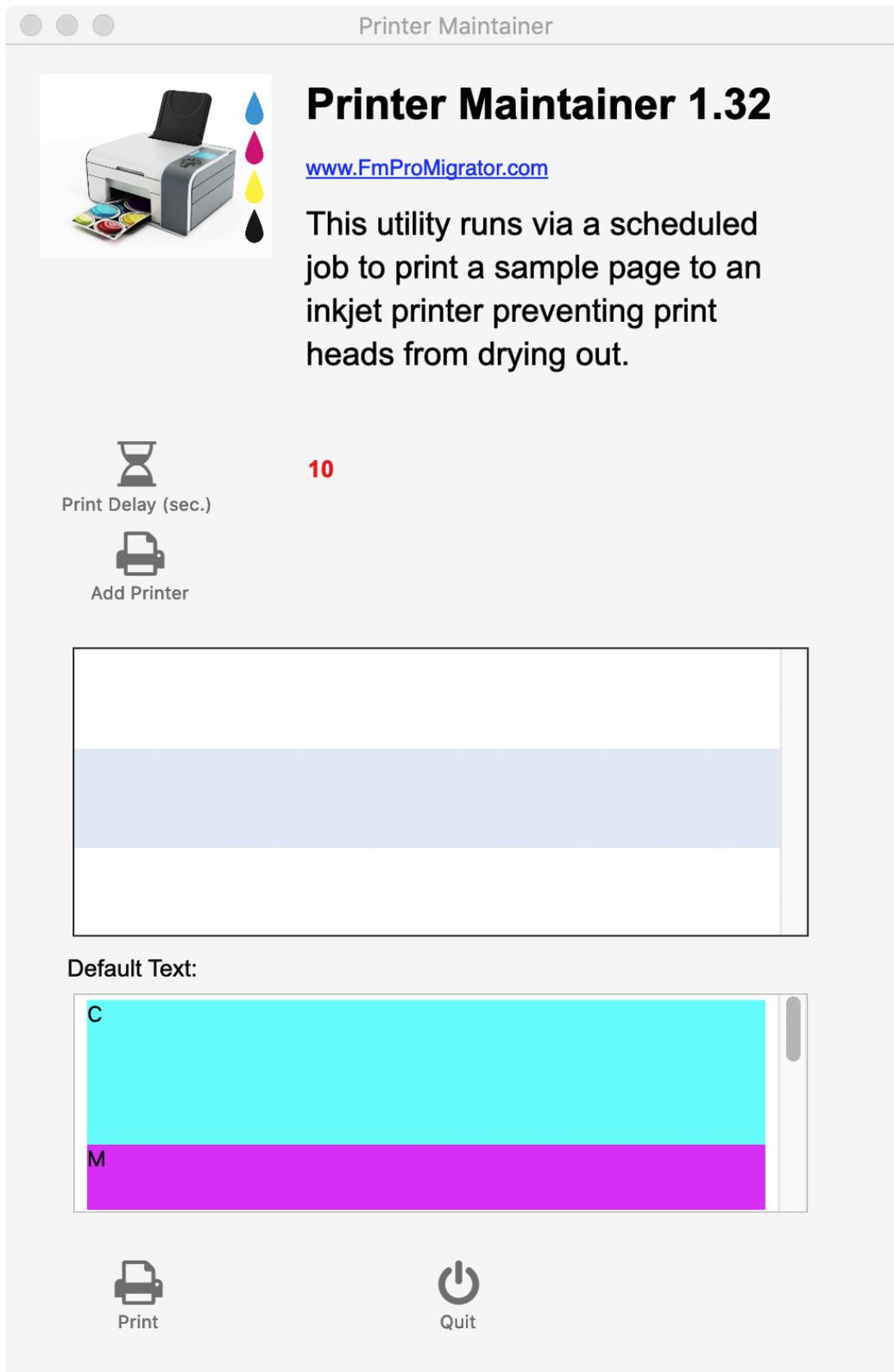
To open the Printer Maintainer app, just open the extracted folder and double-click on the Printer Maintainer.EXE file.

Launching Printer Maintainer - macOS



(1) Double-click the Printer Maintainer icon in the Applications folder.

Stopping the Automatic Countdown

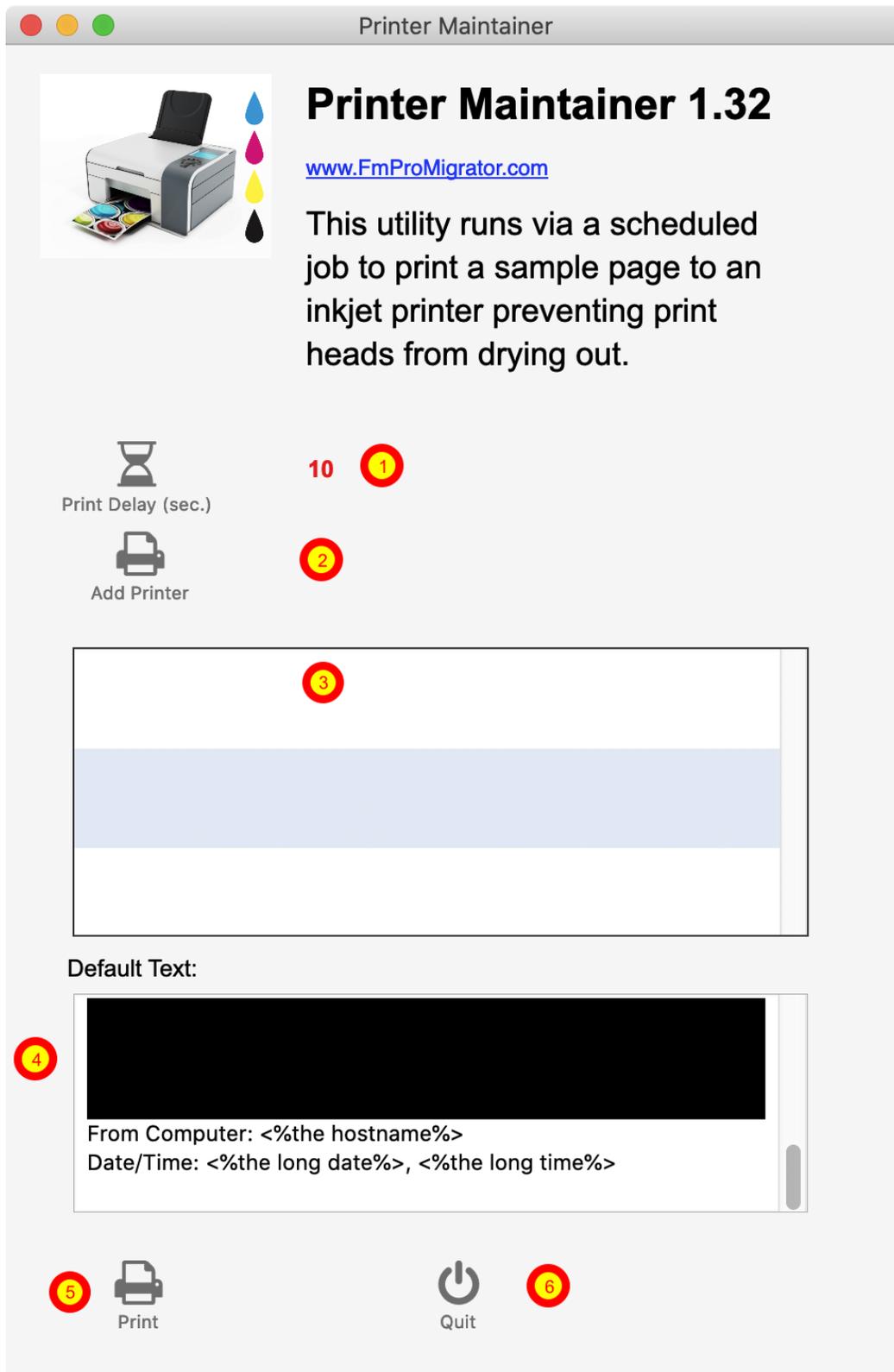


The Printer Maintainer app will automatically start counting down from 10 seconds when it is launched.

Clicking anywhere in the window will pause this automatic countdown.

If you don't click anywhere on the window of the app, Printer Maintainer will attempt to print the Default Text field contents to all of the printers in the list and then it will quit. If no printers have been added, the app will just quit after the timer has counted down and no printing will be attempted.

This screenshot shows that no printers have yet been added to the app for printing.



Each of the settings described here will be automatically saved into the preferences file when the options are selected.

(1) Print Delay is set by selecting the number of seconds to delay from the pop-up menu displayed whenever clicking close to the Print Delay button.

Default = 10 seconds

(2) Click the Add Printer button to display the list of available printers configured on this computer.

(3) List of printers - empty by default.

(4) The Default text field shows the text and bands of color (CMYK) which will be printed on the selected printer.

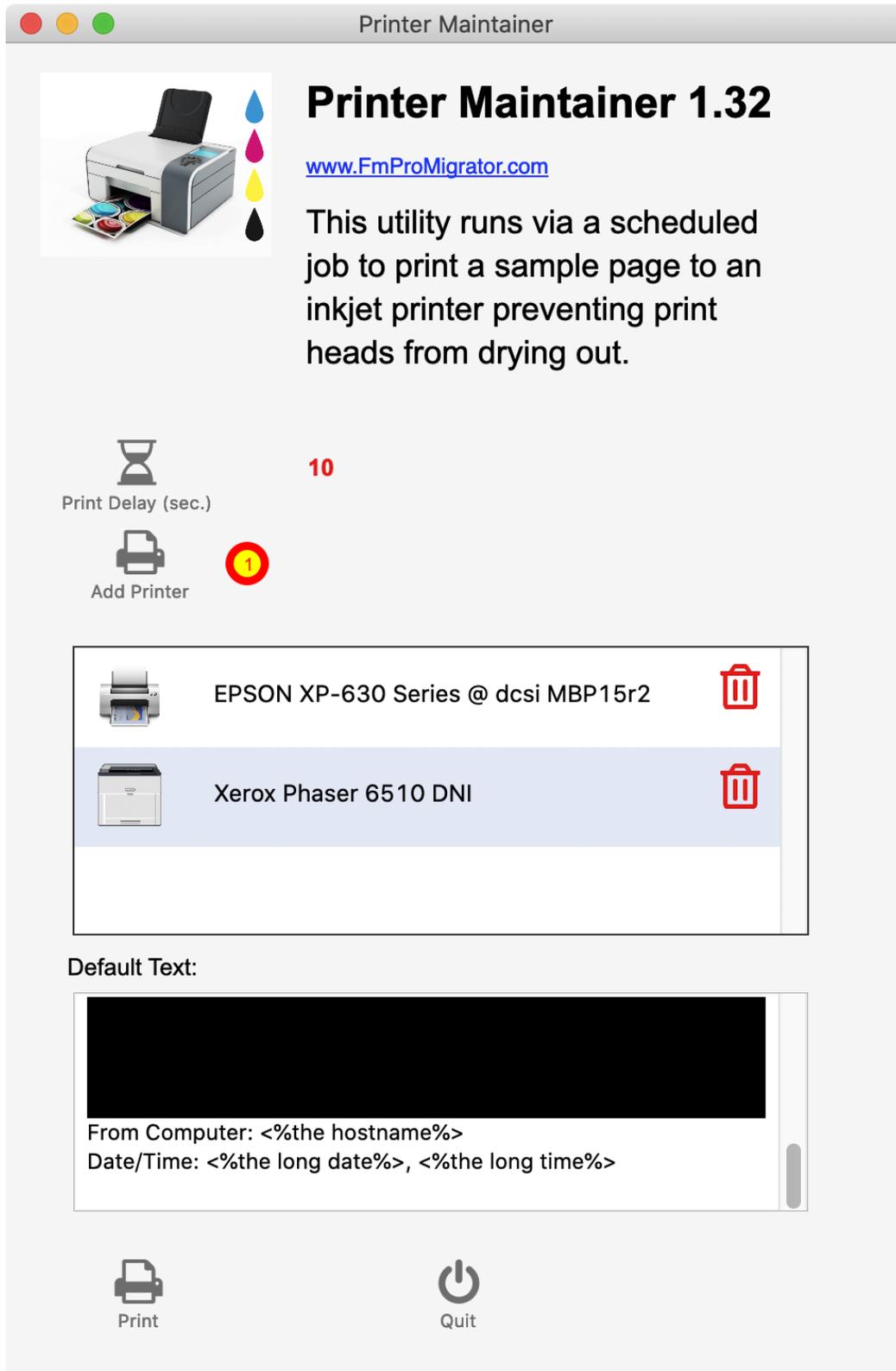
Additionally, the name of the computer and Date/Time info will be printed.

This field can be modified to add additional info below the Date/Time line of text.

(5) Click the Print button, to immediately print the Default Text to the currently selected printer.

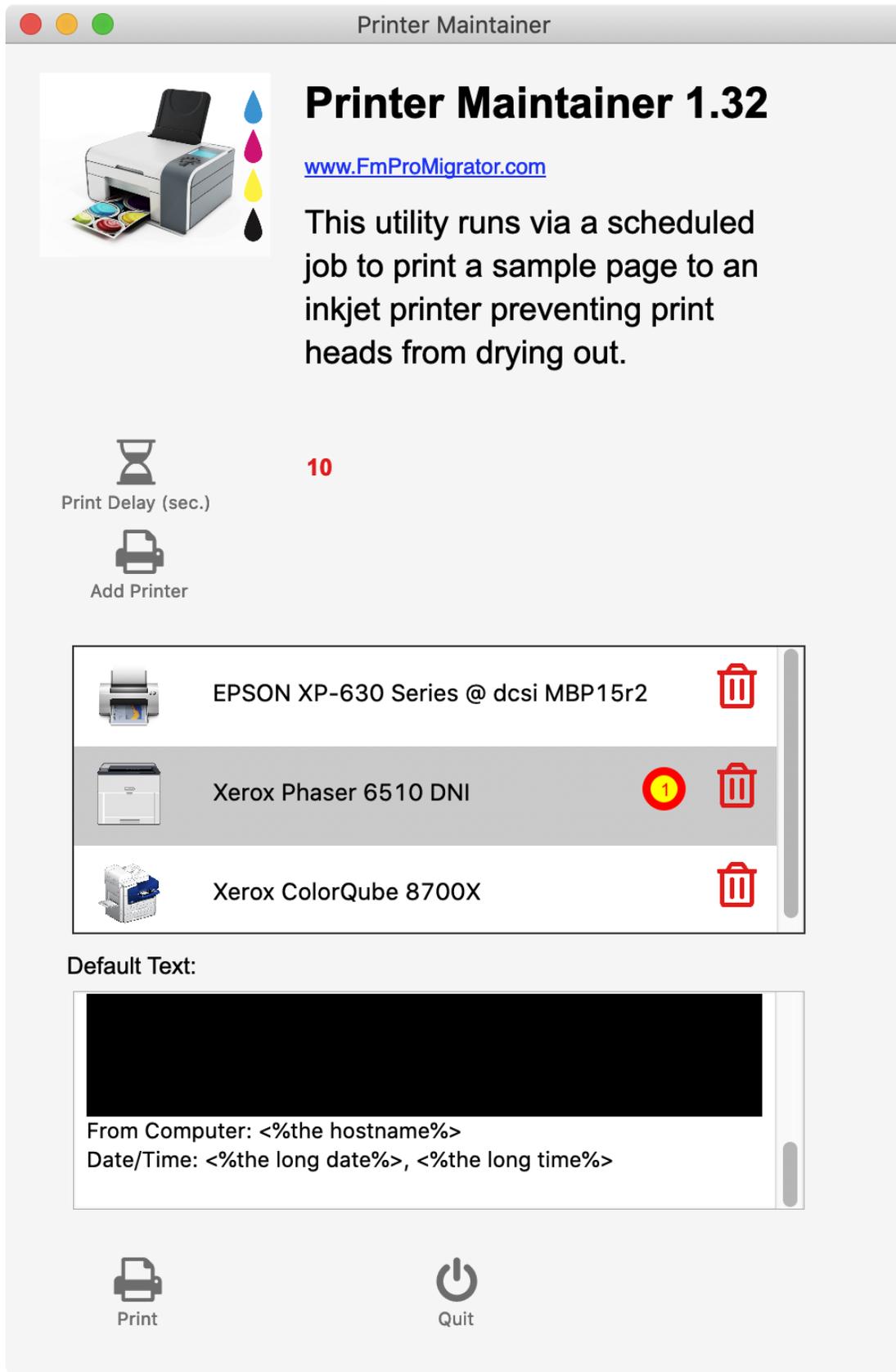
(6) Click the Quit button or select the File -> Quit menu to quit the app.

Add a Printer



(1) Click the Add Printer button to add a printer to the list of printers which will be used for printing. You will be prompted to select a printer from the list of printers, then you will be prompted to select the Page Setup options for the printer.

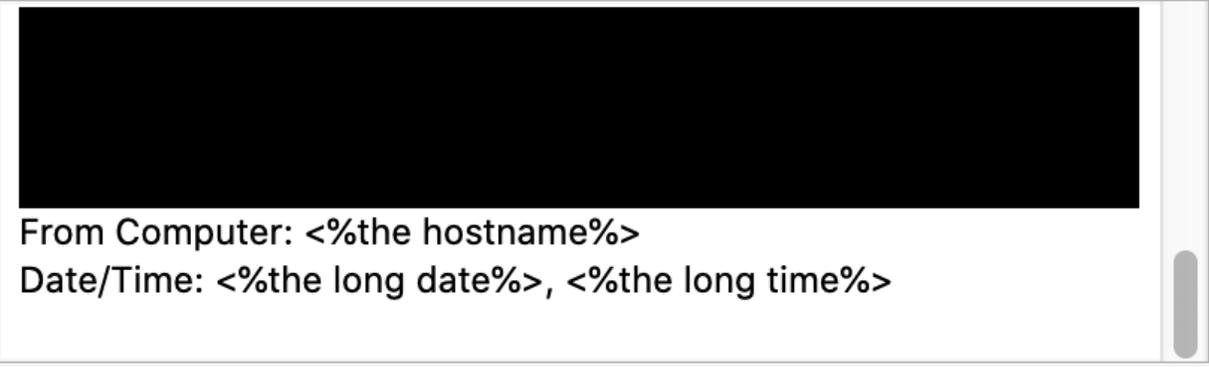
Then the printer and its icon will be added to the list of printers - as shown in this screenshot.



(1) Click the red trash can icon at the right side of the row of printer info to delete it from the list.

Adding Default Text Calculated Values

Default Text:



From Computer: <%the hostname%>
Date/Time: <%the long date%>, <%the long time%>

The text shown in the Default Text field bracketed between <% %> symbols represents LiveCode scripting code. The LiveCode development environment dictionary provides the full list of commands available.

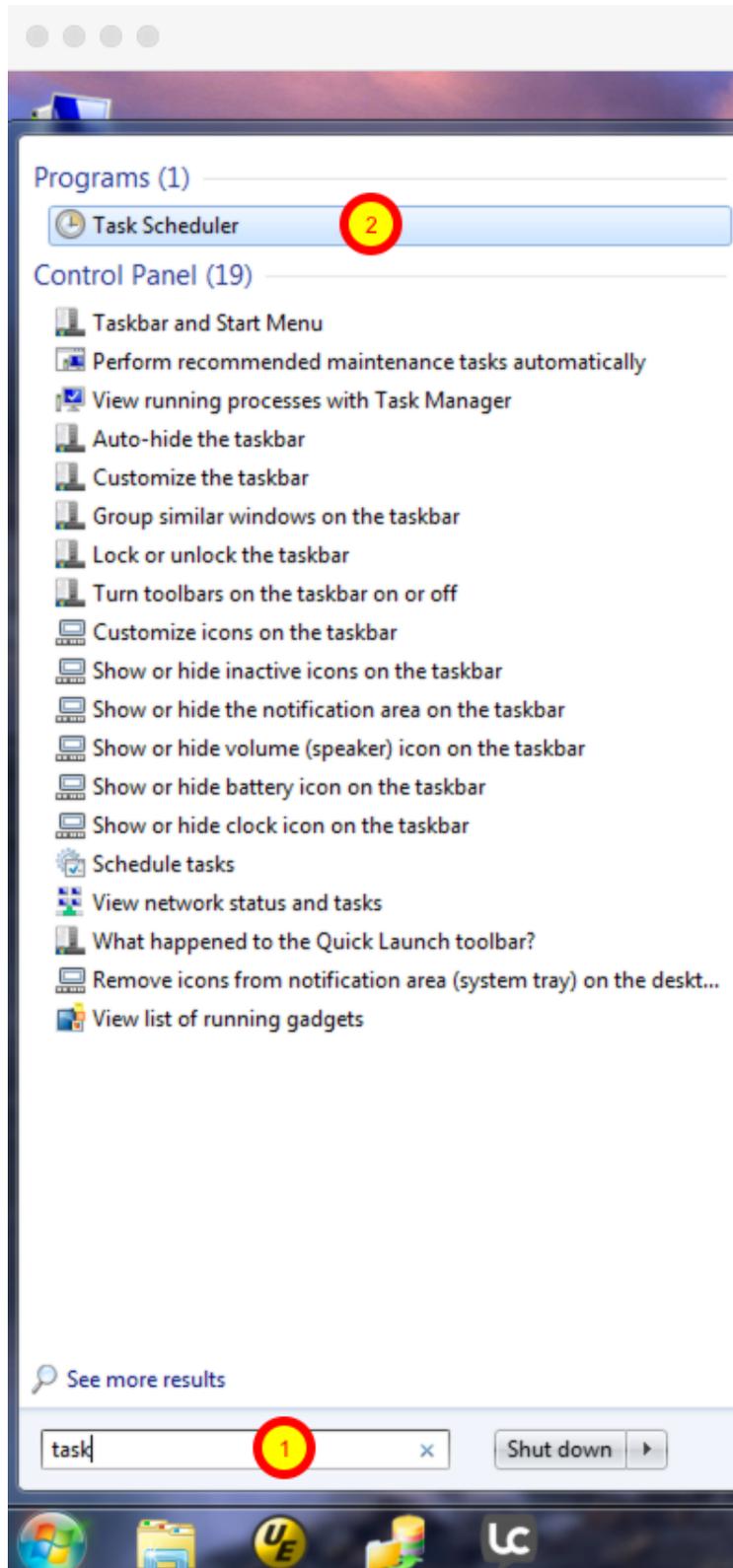
LiveCode is the cross platform development environment used to develop the Printer Maintainer utility.

More info and free downloads of LiveCode Community Edition are available from:

www.LiveCode.org

Configuring a Windows Scheduled Job

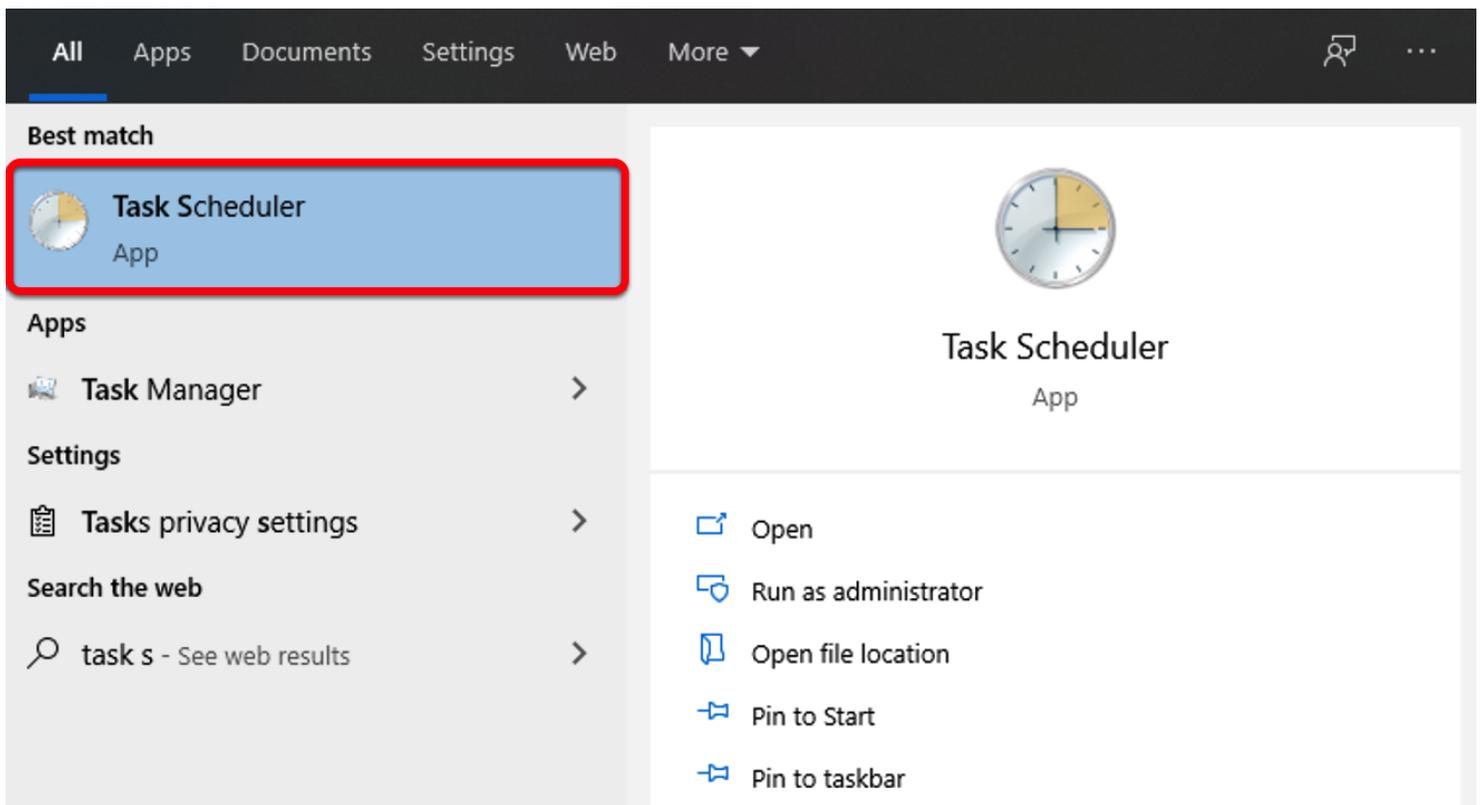
Open Task Scheduler - Windows 7



(1) Click the Start menu, then start typing the application name into the search box. Before you finish typing the entire word, Windows will show the Task Scheduler in the list of apps.

(2) Click Task Scheduler in the list to open it.

Open Task Scheduler - Windows 10

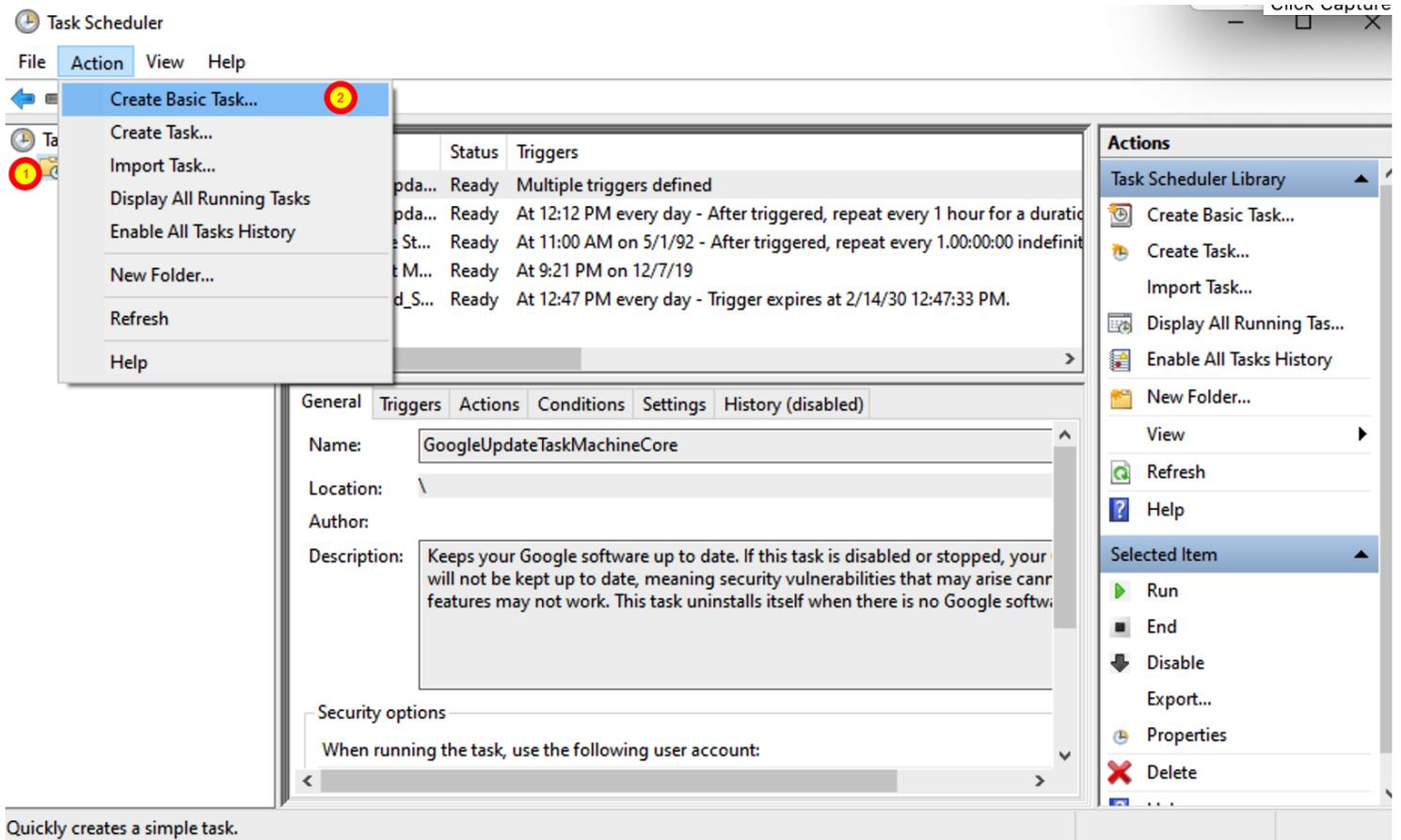


Click the Start menu, then start typing the text: task scheduler

Before you finish typing the entire word, Windows will show the Task Scheduler in the list of apps.

Click Task Scheduler in the list to open it.

Create Basic Task...



- (1) Click the Task Scheduler Library folder.
- (2) Select the Action -> Create Basic Task... menu item.

Name the Task

Create Basic Task Wizard

Create a Basic Task

Use this wizard to quickly schedule a common task. For more advanced options or settings such as multiple task actions or triggers, use the Create Task command in the Actions pane.

Create a Basic Task

Trigger

Action

Finish

Name: Printer Maintainer Launcher (1)

Description: Launch the Printer Maintainer app to print a sample page to the inkjet printer. (2)

< Back Next > (3) Cancel

- (1) Enter a name for the scheduled task.
- (2) Enter a description for the scheduled task.
- (3) Click the Next button.

Configure Trigger

Create Basic Task Wizard

Task Trigger

Create a Basic Task

Trigger

Weekly

Action

Finish

When do you want the task to start?

Daily

Weekly

Monthly

One time

When the computer starts

When I log on

When a specific event is logged

< Back

Next >

Cancel

(1) Click the radio button for a Weekly task.

(2) Click the Next button.

Choose Day of Week

Create Basic Task Wizard

 Weekly

Create a Basic Task

Trigger

Weekly

Action

Finish

Start: 2/14/20  12:56:48 PM  Synchronize across time zones

Recur every: weeks on:

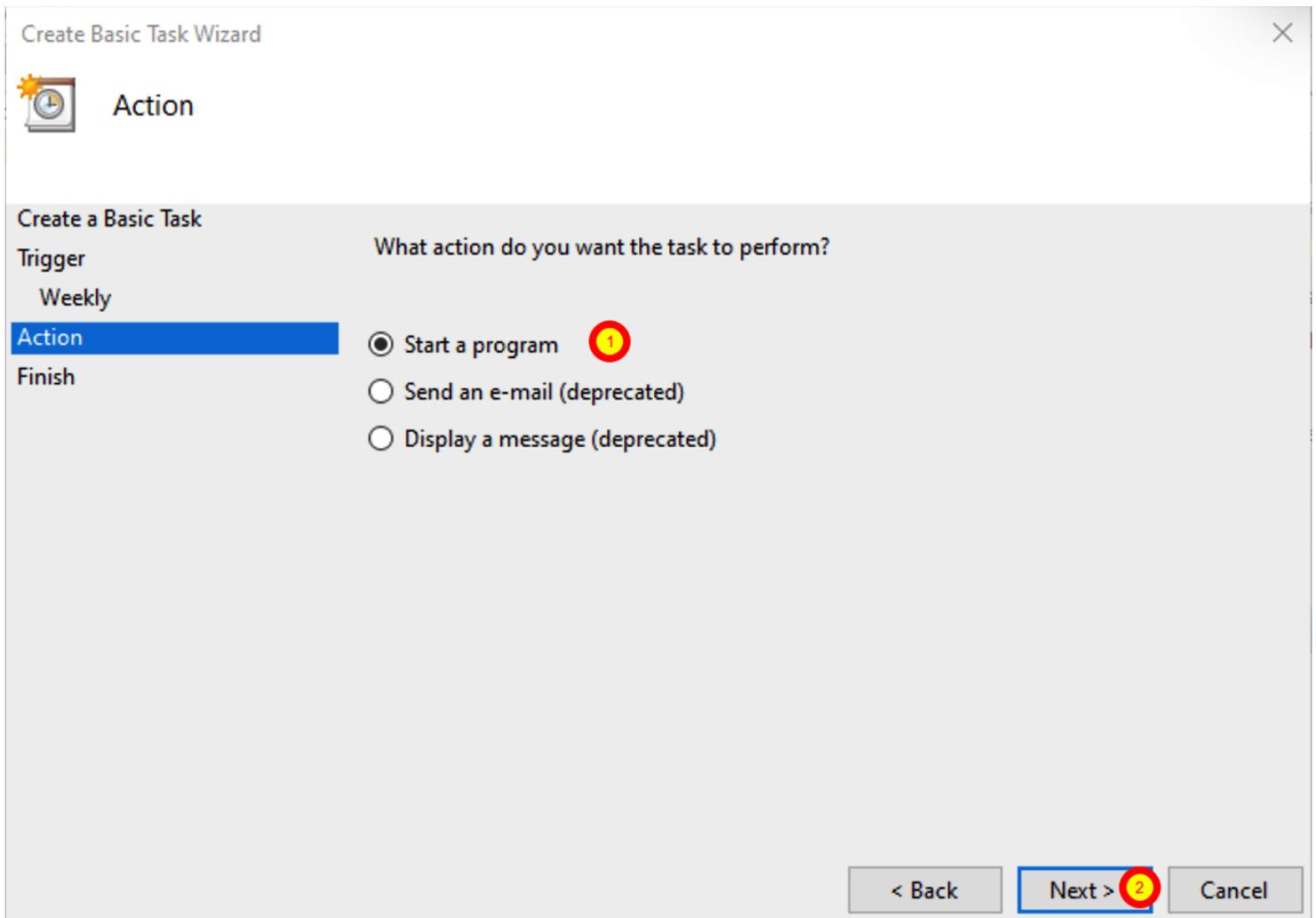
Sunday Monday  Tuesday Wednesday

Thursday Friday Saturday

< Back **Next >**  Cancel

- (1) Choose a day of the week and a (2) time.
- (3) Click the Next button.

Select Action - Start a Program



(1) Click the Start a Program option.

(2) Click the Next button.

Select Application to Start - (1)

The screenshot shows the 'Create Basic Task Wizard' dialog box with the 'Start a Program' step selected. The 'Trigger' is set to 'Weekly'. The 'Action' section has 'Start a Program' selected. The 'Program/script:' field is empty, and the 'Browse' button next to it is circled in red with the number '1'. The 'Add arguments (optional):' and 'Start in (optional):' fields are also empty. At the bottom, there are buttons for '< Back', 'Next >', and 'Cancel'.

Create Basic Task Wizard

Start a Program

Create a Basic Task

Trigger

Weekly

Action

Start a Program

Finish

Program/script:

Browse

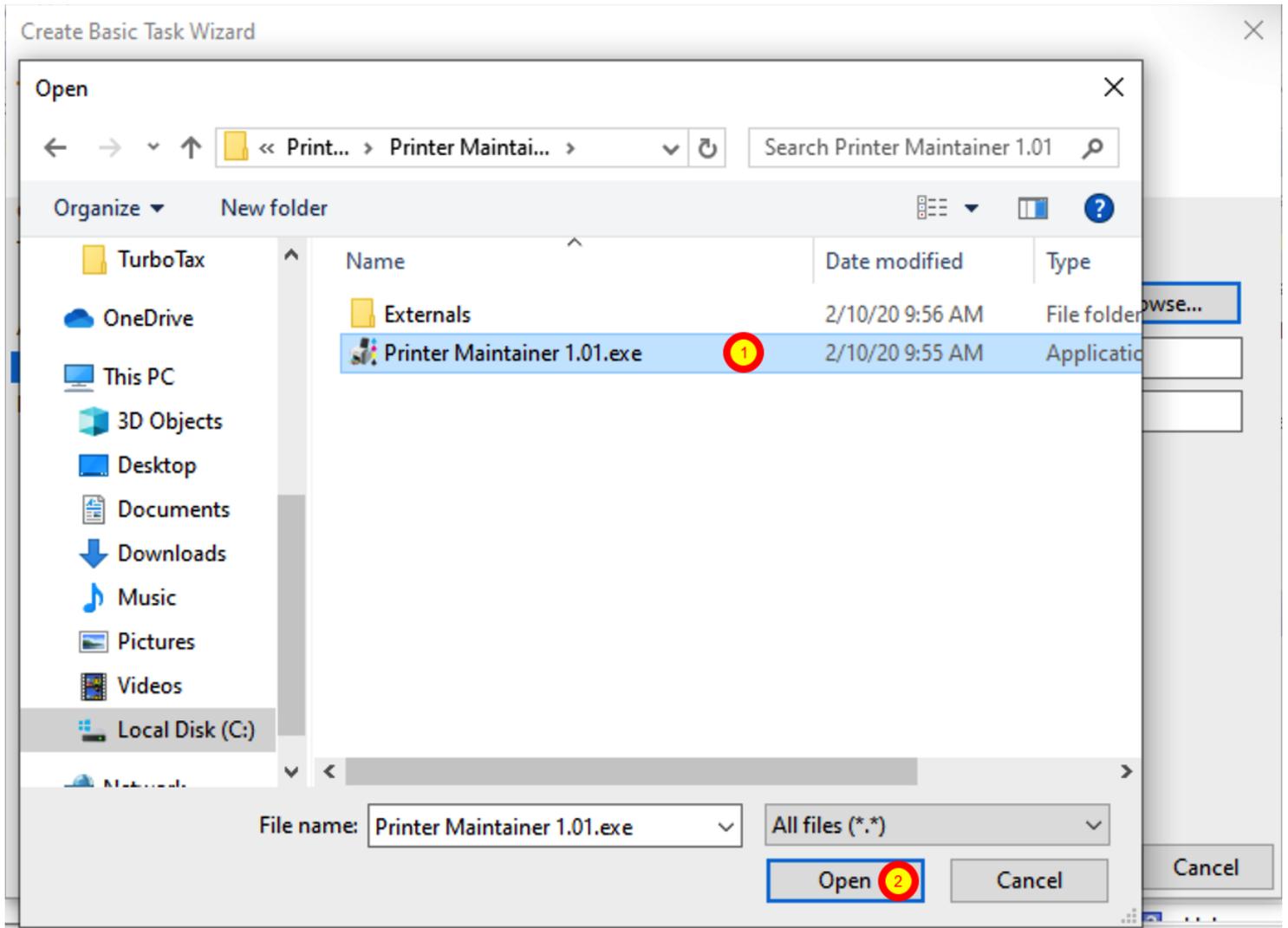
Add arguments (optional):

Start in (optional):

< Back Next > Cancel

(1) Click Browse button.

Select Application to Start - (2)



- (1) Navigate to the location where the Printer Maintainer app was installed, select its EXE file.
- (2) Click the Open button.

Select Application to Start - (3)

Create Basic Task Wizard ×

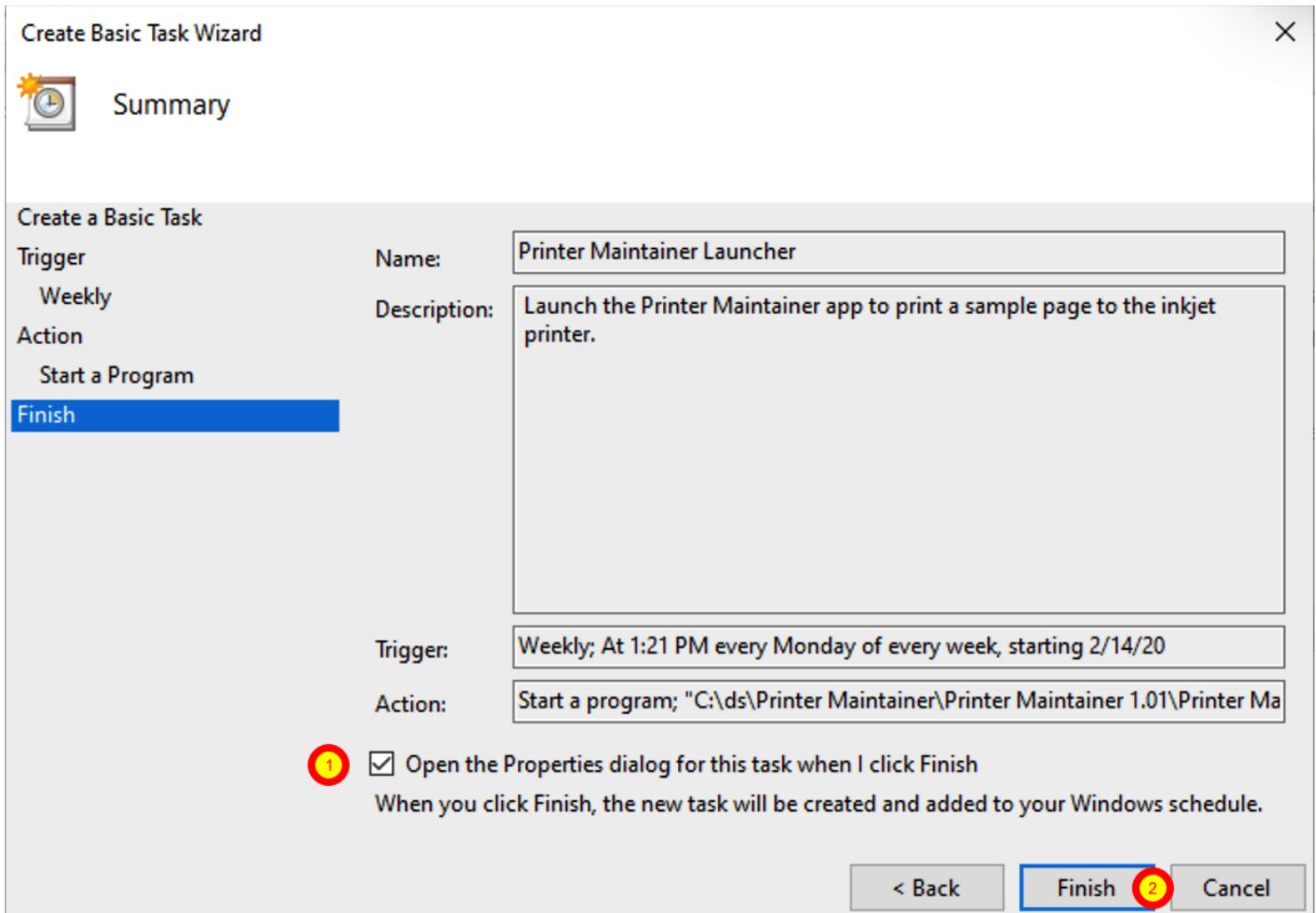
 Start a Program

Create a Basic Task

Trigger	Program/script:
Weekly	<input 1.01\""="" 1.01\printer="" c:\ds\printer="" maintainer="" maintainer\printer="" type="text" value="\"/> <input type="button" value="Browse..."/>
Action	Add arguments (optional): <input type="text"/>
Start a Program	Start in (optional): <input type="text"/>
Finish	

(1) Click the Next button.

Click Finish Button



Create Basic Task Wizard

Summary

Create a Basic Task

Trigger

Weekly

Action

Start a Program

Finish

Name: Printer Maintainer Launcher

Description: Launch the Printer Maintainer app to print a sample page to the inkjet printer.

Trigger: Weekly; At 1:21 PM every Monday of every week, starting 2/14/20

Action: Start a program; "C:\ds\Printer Maintainer\Printer Maintainer 1.01\Printer Ma

Open the Properties dialog for this task when I click Finish

When you click Finish, the new task will be created and added to your Windows schedule.

< Back Finish Cancel

(1) Click the checkbox next to the Open Properties dialog (2) Click the Finish button.

Scheduled Job Properties - Run Whether User is Logged On or Not

Printer Maintainer Launcher Properties (Local Computer)

General Triggers Actions Conditions Settings History (disabled)

Name: Printer Maintainer Launcher

Location: \

Author: DAVIDSIMPSOA989\dsimpson

Description: Launch the Printer Maintainer app to print a sample page to the inkjet printer.

Security options

When running the task, use the following user account:
DAVIDSIMPSOA989\dsimpson Change User or Group...

Run only when user is logged on

Run whether user is logged on or not

Do not store password. The task will only have access to local computer resources.

Run with highest privileges

Hidden Configure for: Windows Vista™, Windows Server™ 2008

OK Cancel

Open the scheduled job you just created. (1) Click on the radio button "Run whether user is logged on or not", (2) Click the Ok button.

Configuring a macOS Scheduled Event

Downloading Scheduler for Macintosh

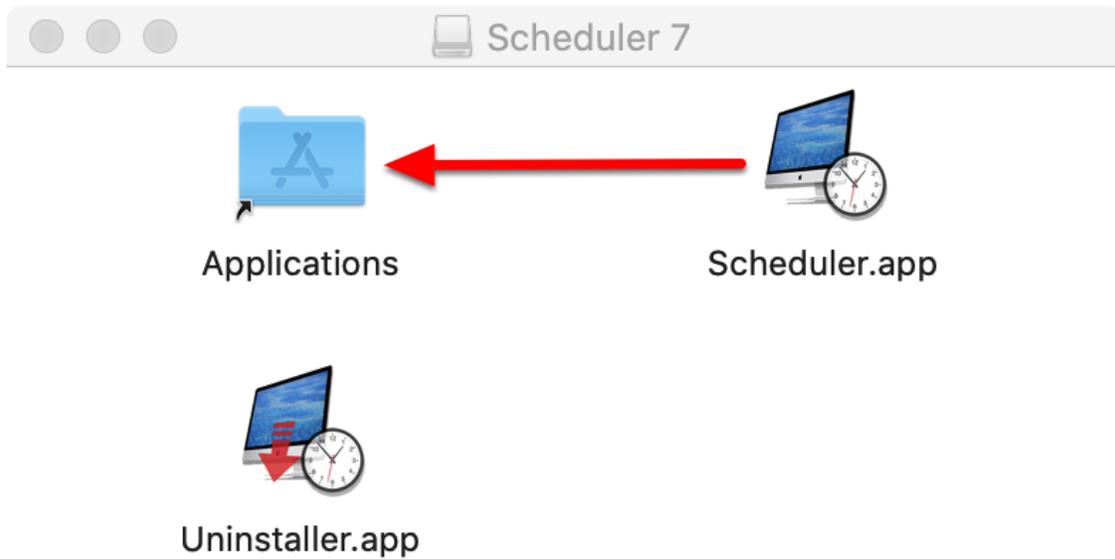


The screenshot shows the website for 'Scheduler for Macintosh'. At the top, there is a blue header with the product name and 'Version 7'. Below this is a navigation bar with links for 'Main', 'What's New', 'Downloads', 'Register', and 'Contacts'. The main content area features a dark background with a blue 'Downloads' button. On the left, there is a sidebar with 'Scheduler' and options for 'Current' and 'Legacy'. The main content displays 'Version 7.3' with a small icon of a Mac and a clock. Below this, it states 'Date: 16 December 2019' and 'Requires macOS Sierra (10.12) or later'. A download icon is followed by a red link: 'Download Scheduler v. 7.3 (build 7477)'. At the bottom, it says 'Macscheduler.net ©1998-2020'.

The Scheduler app is available from: <https://www.macscheduler.net/download.html>

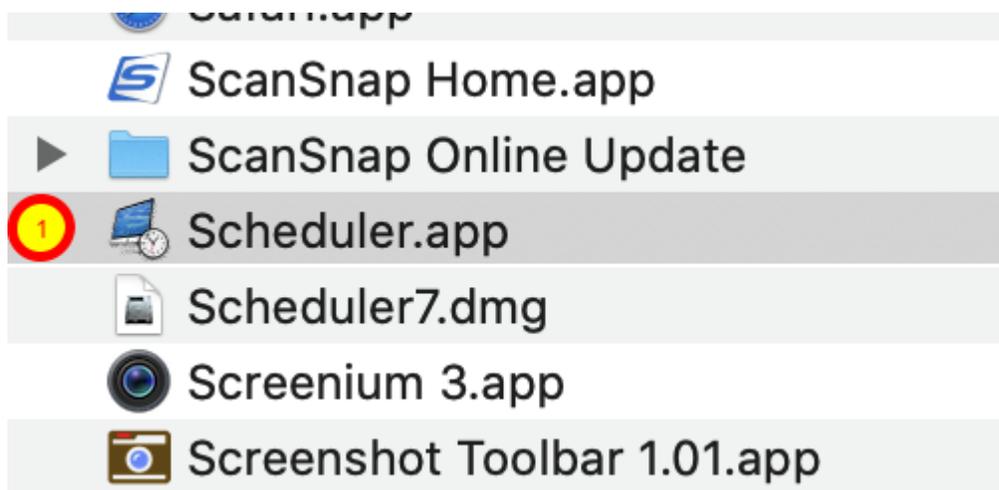
This app is available for free, but does require submitting an email for registration to receive a free license key via email.

Install Scheduler App



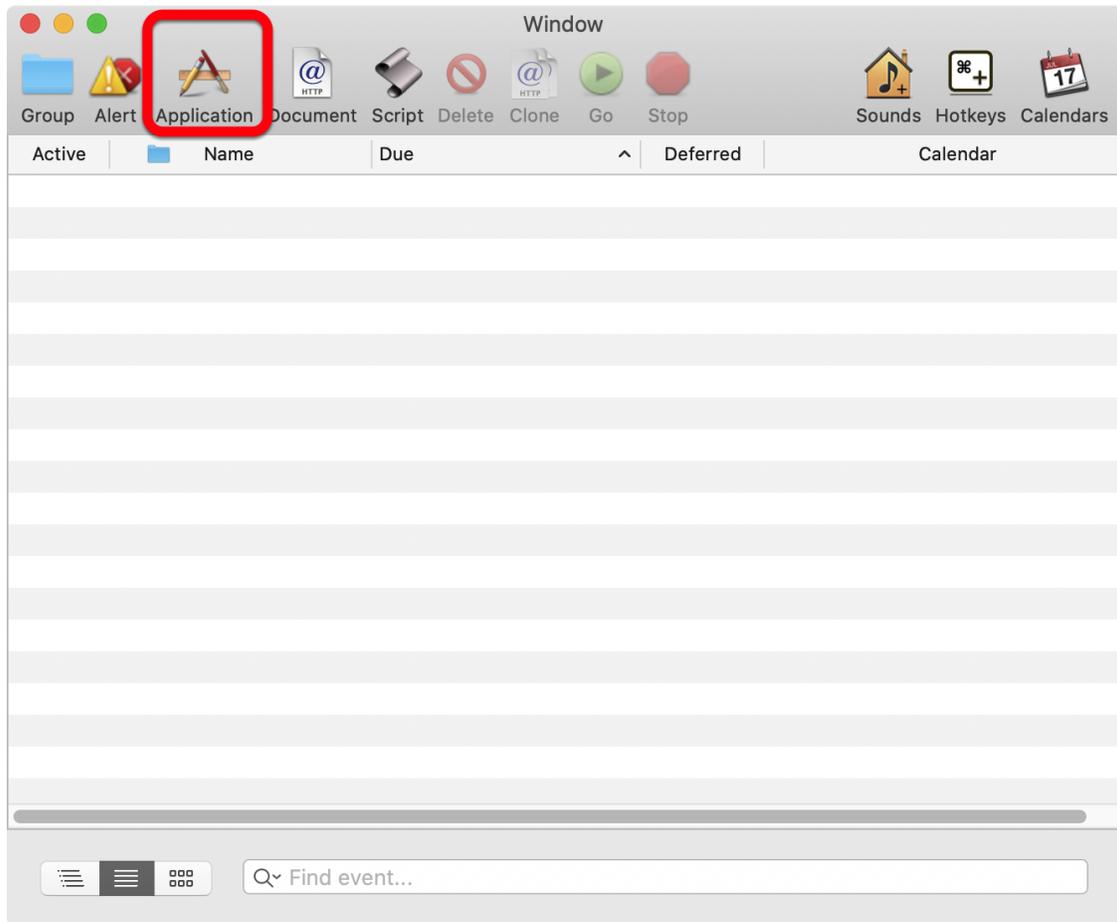
Double-click on the Scheduler.dmg file to open the disk image. Drag the Scheduler.app icon to the Applications folder you see within the DMG window.

Launch Scheduler.app



(1) Launch the Scheduler.app by double-clicking its icon within the applications folder.

Create Scheduled Event



Click the Application icon in the Scheduler configuration window.

Scheduled Application Event Window

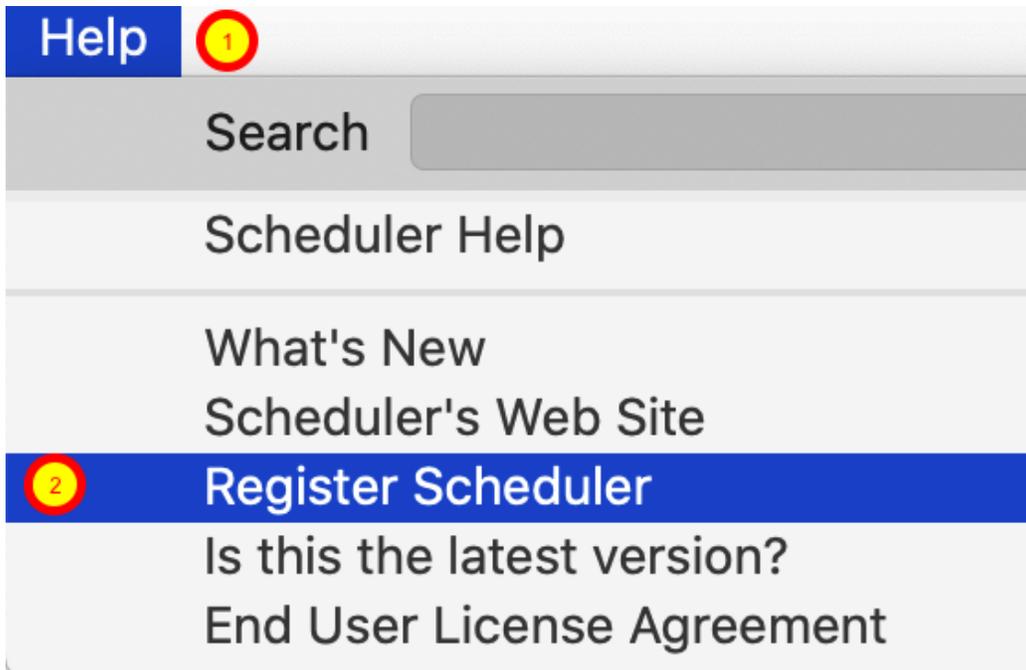
The screenshot shows a macOS-style dialog box titled "Run Printer Maintainer App". It contains several sections with numbered callouts:

- 1**: Title field containing "Run Printer Maintainer App".
- 2**: Date field containing "2/27/2020" and "Thursday".
- 3**: Time field containing "9:38 PM".
- 4**: "Browse..." button next to the application path "Printer Maintainer 1.01.app".
- 5**: "Launch on date and time" radio button, which is selected.
- 6**: "Repeat" checkbox, which is checked, with a dropdown menu showing "Every Thursday".
- 7**: "OK" button.

(1) Enter a title for the scheduled event, (2) choose a date and (3) time for the first time the Printer Maintainer app should run, (4) Browse to select the Printer Maintainer app, (5) select the Launch on date and time radio button. (6) Click the Repeat checkbox, then select today's day of the week from the Repeat menu.

If more flexibility is needed for scheduling, then the Custom... menu option can be selected, which will open another configuration window with more details.

Registering the Scheduler App



Select (2) Register Scheduler from the (1) Help menu to register the app for free on the computer where it is being used.

The website will open with a registration form.

Registration Form

A free all-around scheduling utility for the Mac

Registration

Register Scheduler to ensure that public versions of the software will be available to you for free and to let us know that there is interest in it.

Registration form

 Although Scheduler for Macintosh is freeware, **registration is mandatory after a 30-day trial period.** Fill in this registration form and submit it to receive an email message containing a free registration code. This registration allows us to measure our installed base and verify whether new public releases of the software are worthwhile.

Version you wish to register: * 1

Name: * 2

Email: * 3

Email: * 4

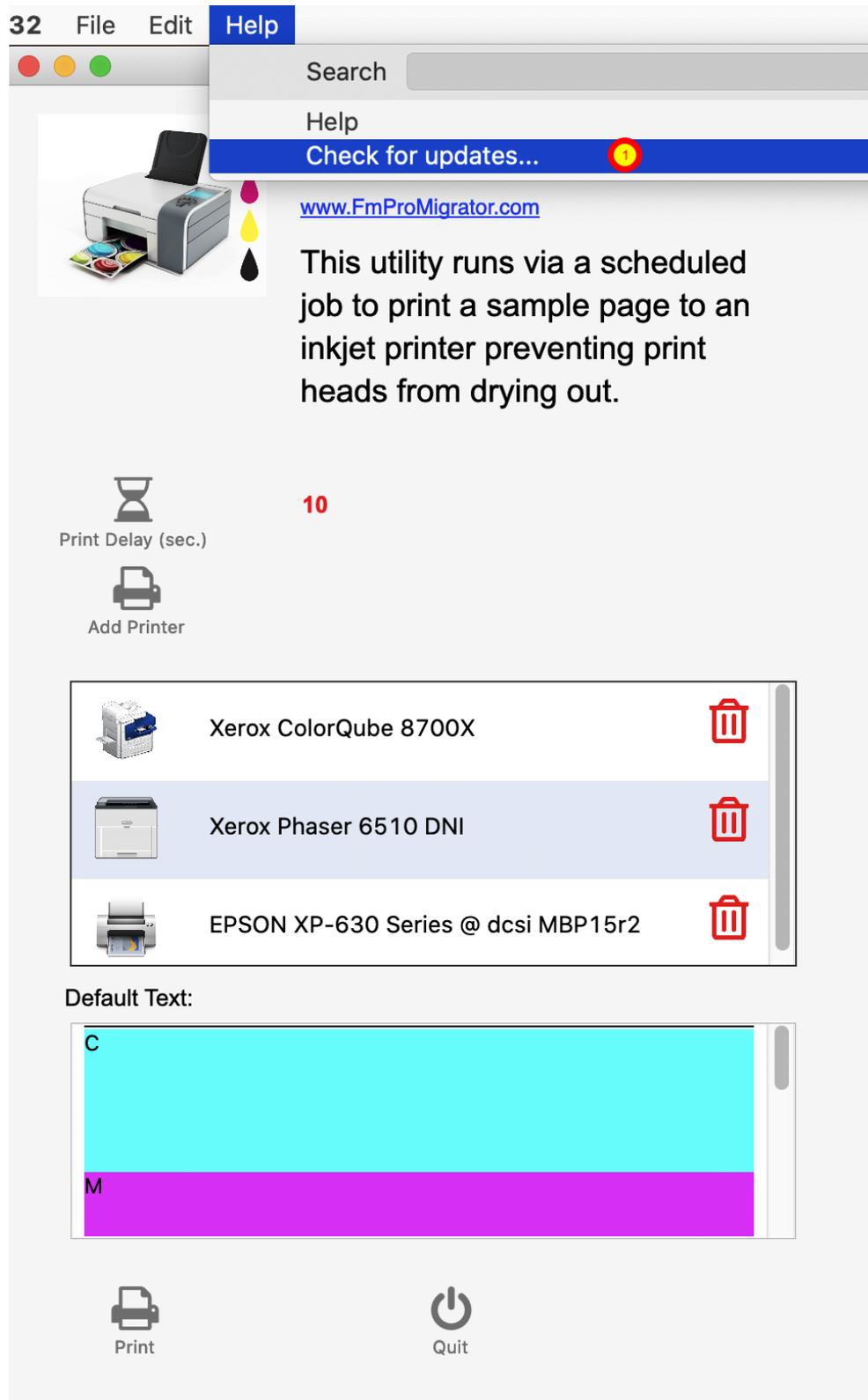
5 I want to be warned when a new release of the software comes out.

6

(1) Select the version you want to register, (2, 3, 4) enter your name/email info, (5) select the notification checkbox if you want to be notified of updates, (6) click the Submit button.

Updates

Checking for Updates...

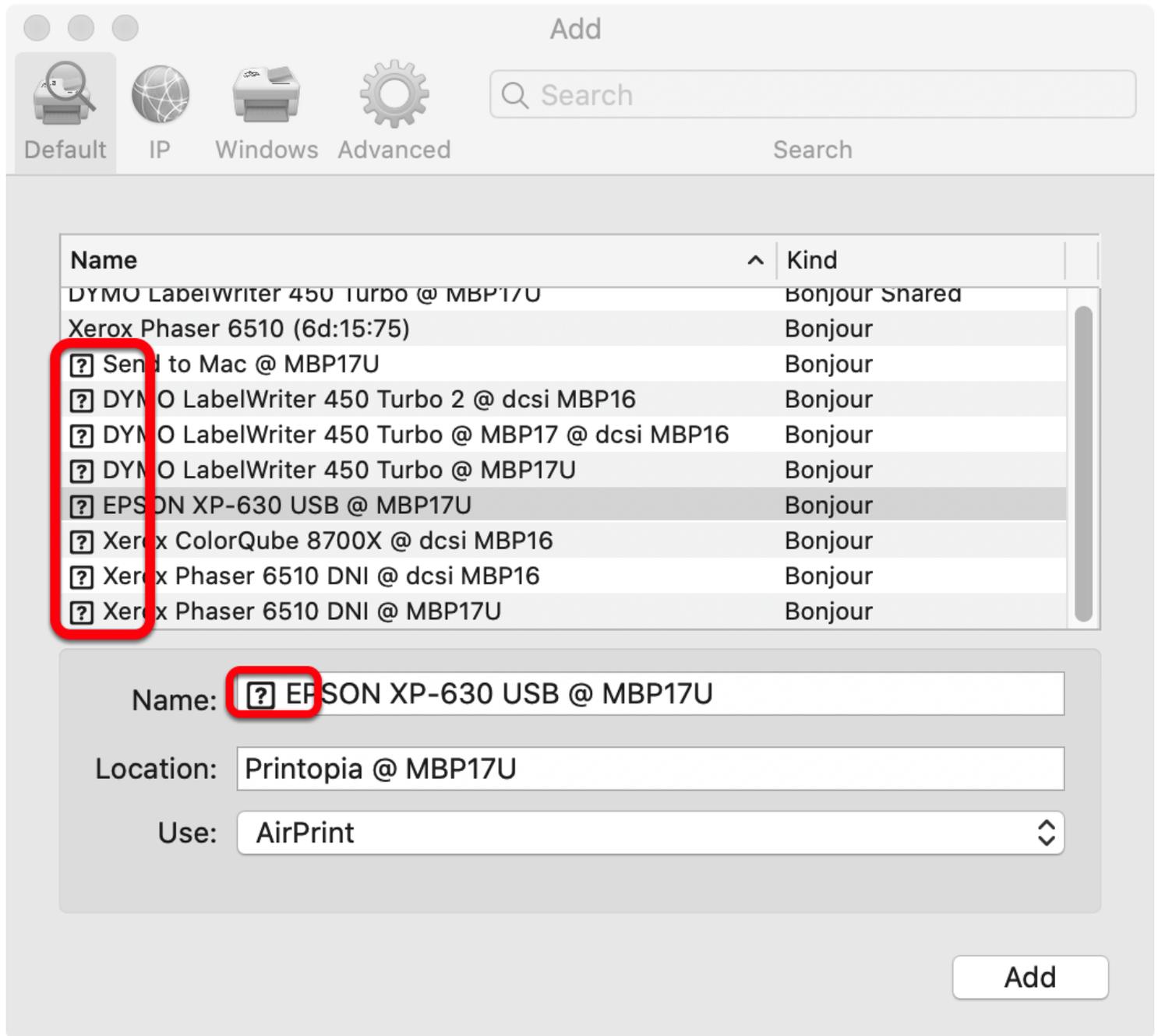


Select the Help -> Check for updates... menu to download the latest version of the Printer Maintainer utility. Follow the installation instructions earlier in this manual. The preferences will be preserved when updating to a new version of the app.

Troubleshooting

Troubleshooting

Printer Driver Name Issue - macOS



Sometimes unusual characters will appear at the left side of the name of the printer driver, when adding a new printer. Notice how some of the drivers have the question mark symbol in a box and a space before the actual driver name.

These 2 characters should be removed from the name when adding the printer in System Preferences -> .Printers & Scanners.

Otherwise, Printer Maintainer might not be able to add the printer properly to the list of printers. The printer may show up with a blank icon and a blank name as it is displayed in the list of

printers.

If this happens, just delete the printer from the list of printers in Printer Maintainer.

Delete the printer from the list of printers in System Preferences and add it again after editing the printer name to remove the leading question mark and space characters.