

Subject: How to delete pesky printer cache files

Date: January 9, 2015 at 10:33 AM

Josh writes:

Hi, I was recently on your website and read the page on security and keeping your printer spool files safe from prying eyes.

As you were asking for more information on this topic I thought I'd share a little.

This is specific to Windows 7, but I would assume Vista or Windows 8 would be similar.

You can have the spool files point to some removable media (such as you suggested for the Mac, you could have them point to a RAM disk, which would ensure secure deletion every time the computer was shut down. (Although the latter would require a little more work and would require the user to have enough RAM available to afford space to create the RAM disk.)

You can change where the computer saves its spool data by changing the settings as follows.

Open Control Panel > Hardware and Sound > Devices and Printers

Select your printer

In the top bar, click "Print server properties"

Under the Advanced tab click "Change Advanced Settings"

You may now give the printer spool a new path.

**** Note, this must point to an actual folder or directory, and not just a drive letter. (Eg. F:\ would not work, but F:\spool would be fine)**

Anyway, hope this is helpful and not too confusing.

Josh

P.S.

Another safety precaution people could take is using something like Sandboxie to open the offline html page when they generate their paper wallet. This will create a kind of barrier between the program opening the file and the rest of the operating system and programs.

Sandboxie could also be used if they are opening a saved pdf of their paper wallet to ensure that their pdf program doesn't retain any cached copy of the file anywhere on the disk.

Of course, if they have their wallet as a pdf, they should take care to either encrypt the pdf or securely delete it once they have printed the wallet.