

Printing with Mobile in Mind

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Requirements



Requirements for printing on mobile devices

- Lightweight printing stack
- No big driver/PPD libraries
- Starting/stopping daemons on-demand
- No local queues, only network printers
- No printer setup tool
- Simple print dialog UI but not dropping essential options



Lightweight Printing Stack

- Do packaging of cups and cups-filters for three printing stack size levels:
- Level 1: Absolute minimum stack ~1 MB
 - Only printing on remote CUPS queues
 - cups: cupsd, libcups2, ipp backend
 - cups-filters: cups-browsed
- Level 2: Small stack ~XX MB?
 - Printing PDF on remote CUPS queues and IPP network printers which do IPP Everywhere, PDF, PostScript, or PCL
 - cups: Level 1 + libcupsimage2, pstops, rastertopwg
 - cups-filters: pdftopdf, pdftoraster, pdftops, rastertopclx
 - Poppler OR Ghostscript (OR MuPDF)
- Level 3: Desktop stack ~XXX MB?
 - Printing on any printer which works with Linux
 - Full upstream packages and all drivers and PPDs





Starting and Stopping Daemons on Demand

CUPS

- xinetd on request on port 631 (no socket support)
- systemd? Upstart?
- Add feature to CUPS daemon to auto-stop after on-demand start ("cupsd –stop-on-idle-sec 30"?)

cups-browsed

- Trigger by avahi-daemon
- Close after having handled the triggering event
- Works for Bonjour browsing only, CUPS broadcasting/browsing not needed





No local queues, only network printers No printer setup tool

- cups-browsed browses for IPP printers
 - Remote CUPS queues
 - IPP network printers
 - IPP allows polling capability info
 - IPP Everywhere (PWG Raster)
 - PDF
 - PostScript
 - PCL
 - Generate PPDs let PPDs generic where detailed capability info is missing
 - Create local queue when printer appears, remove when printer disappears



Simple Print Dialog UI

- Provide a print dialog as system part, for all apps
- Keep it simple (like iOS dialog) ...
- ... but do not drop essential options
- Important options:
 - Page Size (esp. for photo printing)
 - Paper type or tray
 - Duplex
 - Quality
 - Number of Copies
 - > ???





Questions?

