Glossary

ac
Alternating current.

ANSI size
An American standard media size; e.g. D, E

application
The software you use to create your drawings.

APS
Air Pressurization System

Centronics
A standard for the parallel interface between computer and device.

clipping
Losing part of a drawing at the edges.

CMYK
Cyan, magenta, yellow and black. The colors of the printer's four inks, and also a standard color model.

coated paper
Paper coated on one side for inkjet printing.

default
A value or condition that is assumed if no other value or condition is specified.

device
An external item connected to the computer: printer, plotter, tape drive, etc. Your HP DesignJet is a device.

dpi
Dots per inch, a measure of print resolution.

driver
The software that controls the communication between a computer and a device.

front panel
The control panel on the right of the printer.

front-panel menus
The structure of options in the front-panel display.

graphics language
A programming language telling a print device how to output graphic data.

grayscale
Shades of gray to represent colors.

high-gloss film
A glossy, opaque, polyester media type.

high-gloss photo
A glossy, opaque photographic paper.

HP-GL/2

One of Hewlett-Packard's standard graphics languages for plotters and printers. Produces vector data. Newer than HP-GL.

IDS

Ink Delivery System.

I/O Input/output

The transmission of data between a computer and a device.

inked area

The smallest rectangle that contains all the content of the drawing, while maintaining its relative dimensions.

ISO size

An international standard media size; e.g. A1, A2, etc.

ISS

Ink Supply Station

JIS size

A Japanese standard media size.

LAN

Local area network.

LDS

Leak Detect System

long-axis printing

Printing a page whose X-axis (the axis vertical to the printer as you look at it from the front) is longer than a standard page size.

margin

The space around the page added by the printer to separate one page from another and to avoid printing right to the edge of the media.

matte

Not glossy.

media

The material, usually paper, onto which the printer prints.

nesting

Placing two or more pages side-by-side on roll media to avoid waste.

palette

A set of logical pens defined by color and width.

Paper-axis

The vertical axis, as you look at the printer from the front.

PJL

Printer Job Language. A programming language that controls jobs going to a printer.

PML

Printer Management Language.

parallel interface

A type of interface between computer and device. Generally faster than a serial interface.

PANTONE

The PANTONE MATCHING SYSTEM® is an international standard for color communication in the graphics art industry.

pen

Even though the plotter has no physical pens, the lines it draws match the attributes of a pen.

platen

The exterior part of the printer on which the media rests before going into the media-entry slot.

printing area

Page size minus margins.

PostScript

A standard page-markup language, commonly used by graphics and desktop publishing software applications.

PSU

Power Supply Unit.

queueing

Placing each print received by the device into memory for processing with other prints.

raster

A method for defining an image, in terms of dots rather than lines. Raster data typically needs more memory than vector data.

RGB

Red, green and blue. A standard color model.

RIP

Raster Image Processor.

RTL (Raster Transfer Language)

One of Hewlett-Packard's standard graphics languages for plotters and printers. Produces raster data.

ROM DIMM

A physical module containing read-only data, that can be installed in the back of the printer to provide upgrades.

Scan-axis

The horizontal axis, as you look at the printer from the front.

semi-gloss photo

A semi glossy, opaque photographic paper.

spindle

The rod which holds the roll of media.

Glossary