Printer Management

PRINTER AND PRINTER SERVER:

Logical Printer:

- The logical printer is the software configuration that is created in Windows client machine and is represented by an icon in the Printers And Faxes window.
- It controls the printer's configuration and the way in which Windows sends documents to the printer.

Printer:

- The printer is a hardware device that puts text or images on paper or on other print media. You will encounter two types of printers:
  - Local printer: A local printer is connected to a physical port on the print server. A logical printer created on the print server provides tools for managing and sharing the printer.
  - Network interface printer: A network interface printer is connected directly to the network via an internal network adapter. You create a logical printer on a print server that you can use to manage and share the printer.

Print Server:

- The print server is the computer that manages a printer on a network. The print server receives and processes documents from client computers. Any computer (a laptop or a desktop) can act as a print server.

PRINT SERVER TERMINOLOGIES:

Printer Driver:

- The printer driver is a file or set of files containing information that Windows client machine requires to convert print commands into a specific printer language, such as Adobe PostScript. This conversion makes it possible for a printer to print a document. A printer driver is specific to each printer model.

Print Job:

- A print job is a document that Windows has prepared for printing. Print jobs wait in a printer's print queue until it is their turn to be printed. While a print job is waiting in the queue, users can manage or delete the print job.

Printer Port:

- The printer port is a software interface through which a computer communicates with a printer by means of a locally attached interface. For e.g. LPT1, USB 2.0, etc.

Printer Pool:

- Multiple printers (print devices) connected to a single system is known as a printer pool.

Simultaneous Peripheral Operations Online(SPOOL):

- The process of saving a print job to the hard disk before sending it to the printer.

PRINTER PERMISSIONS AND SHARING:

Print: The user can connect to a printer and send documents to the printer. By default, the print permission is granted to all members of the "Everyone" group.

Manage Documents: The user can pause, resume, restart, cancel and rearrange the order of documents submitted by all other users. The user cannot send documents to the printer or control the status of the printer.

Manage Printers: This permission provides full admin access to the printer.

PRINTER PRIORITY

Priority:

- Documents sent by users with high priority levels can bypass a queue of lower priority documents waiting to be printed. If two logical printers are associated with the same printer, the Windows Server operating system routes documents with the highest priority level to the printer first.

- This priority ranges from 1 to 99, with **_higher numbers receiving higher priority._** The default priority is 1. For example, you can assign a printer for managers with a priority of 99 so that their print jobs are completed before those of other employees.