Apple Color Printer: Blank Edge Caused by Letterhead (9/94)

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TOPIC ---

When I print on my letterhead paper using the Apple Color Printer there is a
one-inch column at the left edge of the page that is blank. The blank area
corresponds to a dark black patch that is part of the design on my letterhead.
The printer has no problems printing on plain white paper.

What is causing the problem? Is there a workaround?

DISCUSSION --

The Apple Color Printer uses a small photosensor mounted on the carriage
assembly to detect the top edge and width of the paper. If the photosensor
doesn't receive a reflection then it assumes that there is no paper present. The
width calculation is important when using an ink jet printer because it prevents
the printer from accidentally depositing ink on the platen and other internal
components.

Although inconvenient, placing a small piece of reflective non-stick paper over
the left edge of the letterhead prior to printing should prevent the problem
from occurring. As long as the non-stick note lays flat on the paper it won't
interfere with the operation of the carriage mechanism.

The Color StyleWriter Pro does not use a photosensor to detect paper width and
therefore does not have this limitation.

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