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ImageWriter II: Light Print Problem & Solution (11/94)

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TOPIC -----

The print quality of my ImageWriter II/L is unacceptably light. I replaced the ribbon cartridge, checked the print head gap, and verified that the print head pins are firing. What else could be causing this problem?

DISCUSSION -----

For the print quality on a dot-matrix printer to remain acceptable, the printer must advance the ribbon material at a constant rate during the printing process. When the ribbon material doesn't advance properly, light output results.

The ImageWriter II and ImageWriter II/L both use a mechanical wire and pulley system for ribbon advancement, and it's not uncommon for the ribbon wire or its tension spring to stretch, causing the wire to slip on the pulley. To correct this problem, replace the ribbon wire and spring (part number 935-0001). Shortening the spring to increase the tension can be used as a temporary workaround if the replacement part is not available.

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