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Color LW 12/600 PS: Requires Special Transparencies (2/96)

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TOPIC -----

How does the Color LaserWriter 12/600 PS determine that a transparency is printing? Is it by software or hardware? When I try to print on a transparency I get a paper jam error.

DISCUSSION -----

In order to optimize the print quality when printing transparencies the Color LaserWriter 12/600 PS requires a special transparency material.

The Color LaserWriter uses a photosensor to detect the presence of the special transparencies by looking for a reflection from the white rectangle at the leading edge of the transparency. When the white rectangle is detected the printer enters into the transparency mode. If standard transparencies are used which do not contain the white rectangle, or the white tape strip at the leading edge then a paper jam error is displayed on the status panel.

When the Color LaserWriter 12/600 PS is in the transparency mode an extra transfer drum rotation is added to the end of the printing process during which the transfer drum and fuser rotational speed is cut in half to improve the toner fusing characteristics.

Before assuming that a hardware failure has occurred with the printer consult the Color LaserWriter 12/600 PS user's manual and review the following precautions to reduce jamming problems when printing on transparencies:

- Use only transparencies designed for use with the Color LaserWriter 12/600 PS (Apple part number M3876G/A). There are two different types of transparencies that have been shipped by Apple. See the diagram below to determine which type you have. Both types of transparencies offer the same features and functionality.
- Insert Color LaserWriter transparencies as shown in figure 1, other orientations will cause jams. When using transparency type #2 leave the tape side up when placing them in the multi-purpose tray.
- DO NOT print transparencies from the 250 sheet cassette, print only from the multipurpose tray

Begin_Graphic

Transparency Type #1

Transparency Type #2

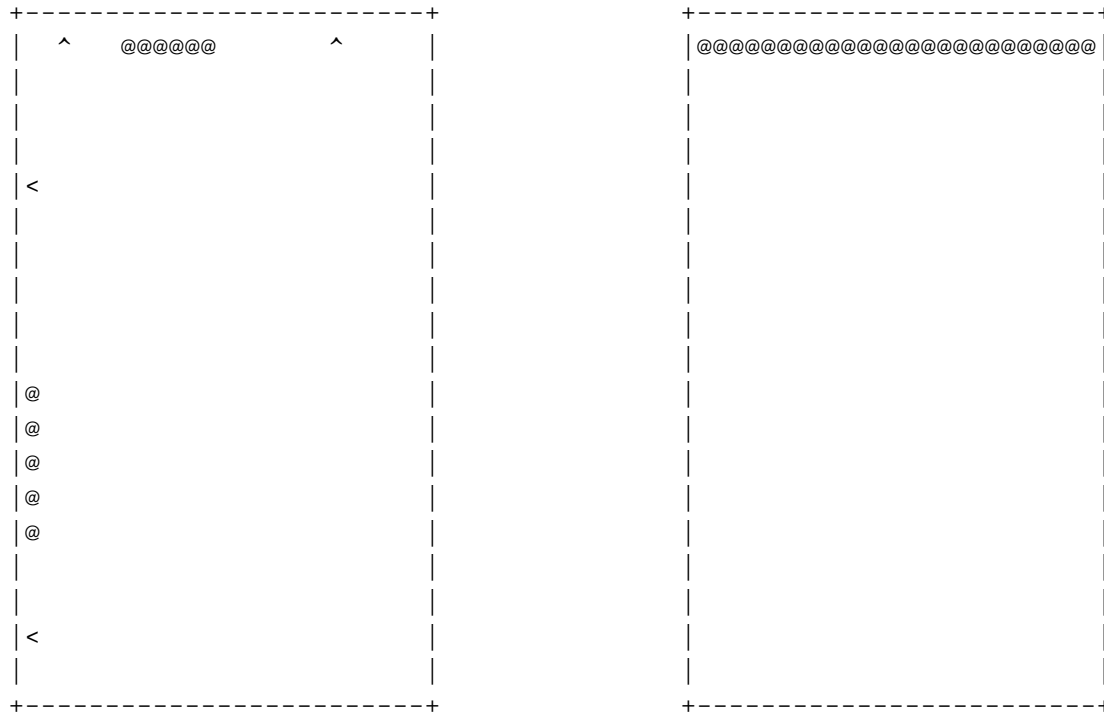


FIGURE 1- Correct transparency orientation

End_Graphic

Note: @@@@ represents areas filled with white

The white tape strip found on the type #2 transparencies can be removed after the transparency has passed through the fuser assembly.

When printing Transparencies, you should also select "Transparency" in the Print Options dialog box. This changes the halftoning structure to allow for a lighter image, and allows for a better "transparency" when viewed through an overhead projector.

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