NEC

PINWRITER

P6/P7 Series User's Guide

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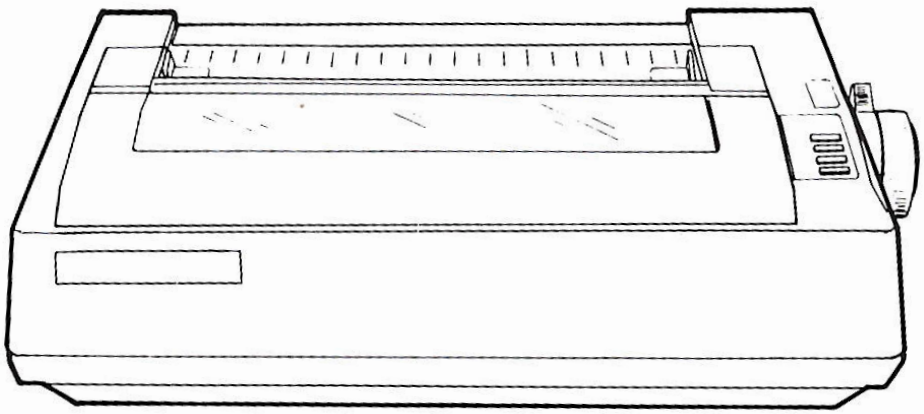
3-86

NEC



PINWRITER

P6/P7 Series User's Guide

LIABILITY DISCLAIMER

NEC (NEC Corporation) products are warranted in accordance with the terms of the applicable NEC product specification. Product performance is affected by system configuration, software, the application, customer data, and operator control of the system, among other factors. While NEC Corporation products are compatible with the standards for which they are advertised, implementation by customers of the product may vary.

Therefore, the suitability of a product for a specific application must be determined by the customer and is not warranted by NEC Corporation.

This manual is as complete and factual as possible at the time of printing; however, the information in this manual may have been updated since that time. NEC Corporation reserves the right to change the functions, features, or specifications of its products at any time, without notice.

First Printing - October 1986

Printed in Japan

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
RADIO FREQUENCY INTERFERENCE STATEMENT

This unit has been type-tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B computing device in accordance with the specifications for Subpart J of Part 15 of FCC Rules, which are designed to provide reasonable protection against such interference in a residential installation.

Manufacturer's Instructions and User's Responsibility to Prevent Radio Frequency Interference

Manufacturer's Instructions

The user must observe the following precautions in installing and operating this device:

1. Operate the equipment in strict accordance with the manufacturer's instructions for the model.
2. Plug the unit into a properly grounded wall outlet and use the power cord supplied with the unit, unmodified.
3. Always operate the unit with the factory-installed cover on the unit.
4. Make no modification to the equipment which would affect its meeting the specified limits of the Rules.
5. Maintain the equipment in a satisfactory state of repair.
6. Use a shielded and properly grounded I/O cable to ensure compliance of this unit to the specified limits of the Rules.

User's Responsibility

The user is ultimately responsible for correcting problems that arise from harmful radio-frequency emissions from equipment under his control. If this equipment does cause interference to radio or television reception (which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on), the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one of the following measures. All of these responsibilities and any others not mentioned are exclusively at the expense of the user.

1. Change in orientation of the receiving device antenna.
2. Change in orientation of the equipment.
3. Change in location of equipment.
4. Change in equipment power source.

If these attempts are unsuccessful, install one or all of the following devices:

1. Line isolation transformers
2. Line filters
3. Electro-magnetic shielding

If necessary, the user should consult the dealer, NEC, or an experienced radio/television technician for additional suggestions. The user may find the following booklet prepared by the Federal Communications Commission to be helpful: "How to Identify and Resolve Radio-TV Interference Problems." This booklet is available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, Stock No. 004-000-00345-4.

NOTE

The operator of a computing device may be required to stop operating his device upon finding that the device is causing harmful interference and it is in the public interest to stop operation until the interference problem has been corrected.

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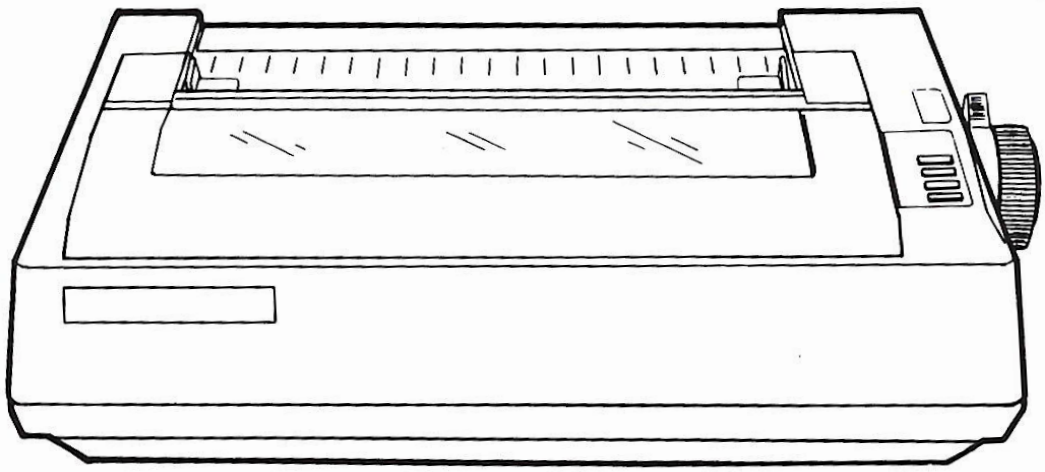
Preface

Your new Pinwriter is an advanced, state-of-the-art printer featuring letter-quality printing and high-resolution graphics. A highly reliable and versatile printer, the Pinwriter prints up to 216 characters per second and produces 256 print styles.

Your Pinwriter is easy to use, but for best results read this guide completely before using the printer and keep the guide handy for reference.

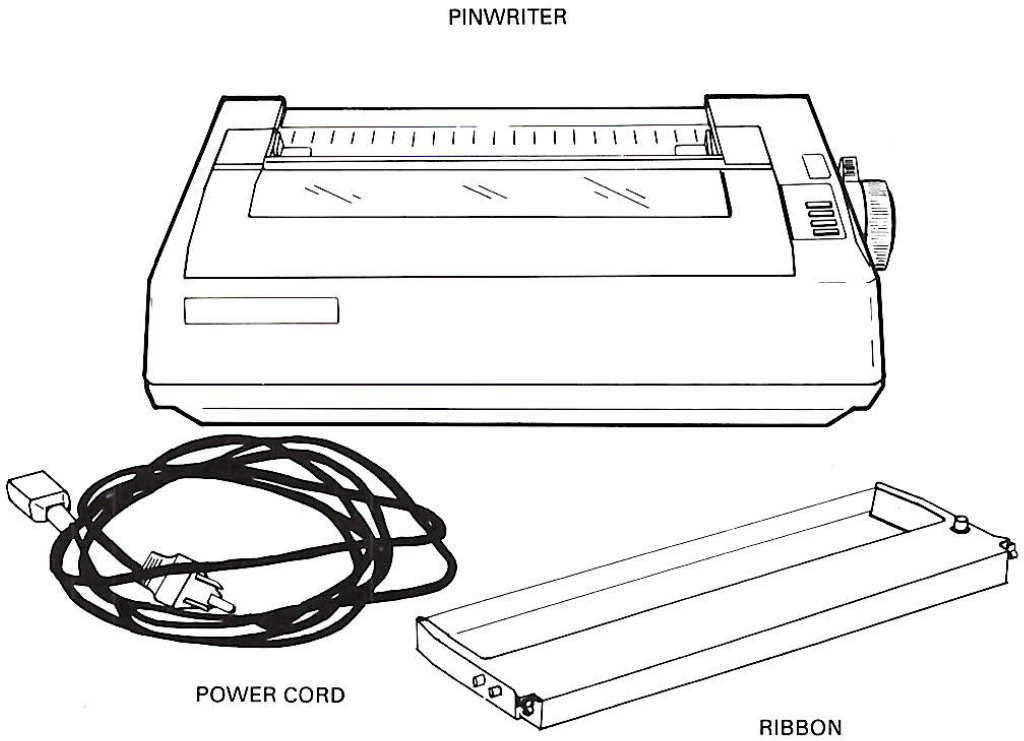
Your computer or your particular application may not support all of the Pinwriter's features or options. Please contact your computer dealer for details.



Setting Up

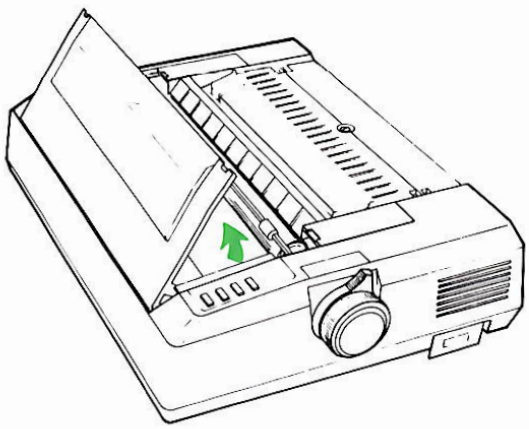
UNPACKING

The shipping carton should contain the parts shown below. If it does not, contact your Pinwriter dealer.

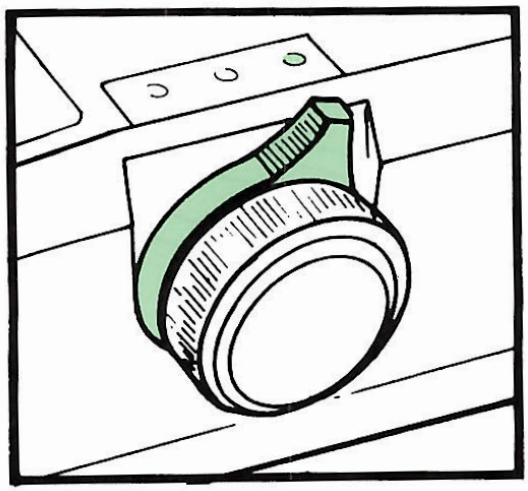


RIBBON

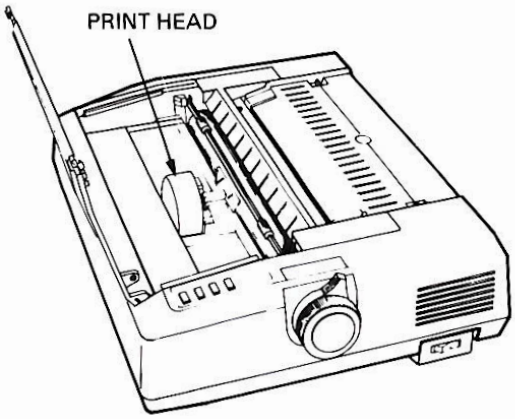
Your Pinwriter is shipped with a continuous-loop black fabric ribbon. Use the following order numbers to order new ribbons: #50-053 (P6 ribbon) and #50-054 (P7 ribbon).



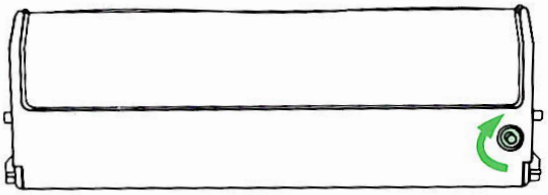
1. Open the acrylic cover.



2. Move the paper release lever to the back position.

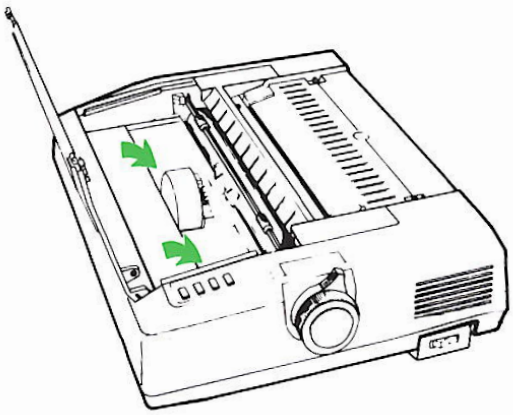


3. If the print head is not centered, slide it to the center of the carriage.

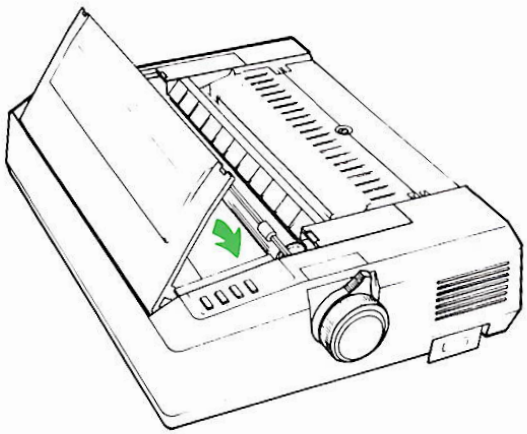


4. Turn the feed knob on the ribbon cartridge in the direction of the embossed arrow to tighten the ribbon.

5. Place the exposed ribbon between the card holder and the ribbon guides.

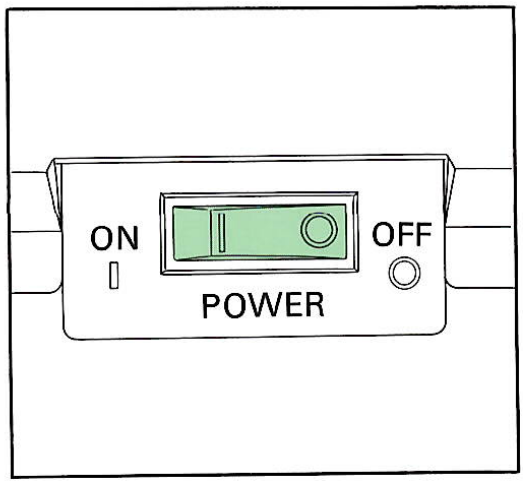


6 Press down on the sides of the ribbon cartridge until it snaps into place.



7 Close the acrylic cover.

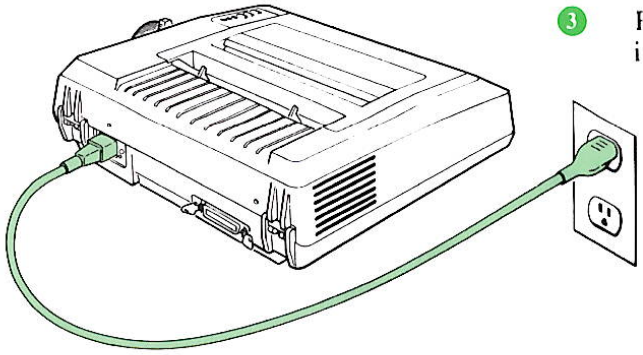
POWER CORD



1. Make sure the power is off.

2. Connect the power cord to the rear of the printer.

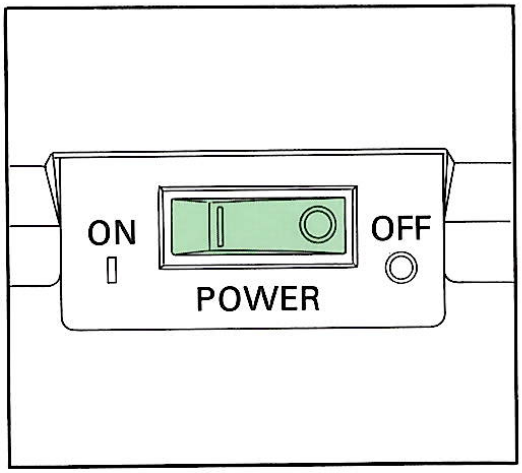
3. Plug the other end of the power cord into an outlet.



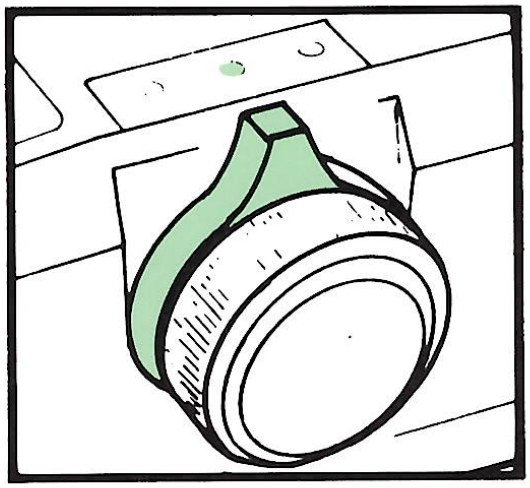
Always plug the power cord into a properly grounded outlet.

SELF-TEST

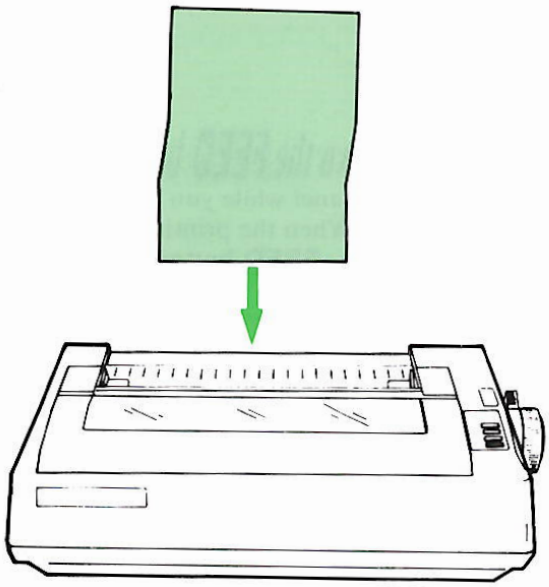
Use this built-in Pinwriter self-test to check the printer's performance and print quality before you connect it to your computer.



1. Make sure the printer is off.

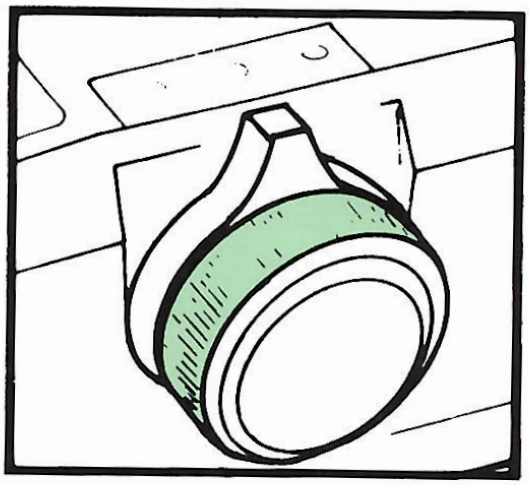


2. Set the paper release lever to the center position.



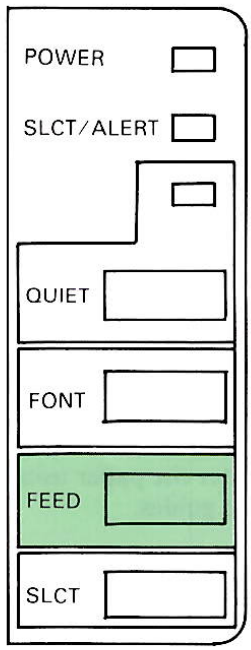
3. Insert paper into the printer (8½ in. x 11 in. paper for the P6 and 14-inch wide paper for the P7).

4. Center the paper using the ruler and edge guides.



5. Use the platen knob to manually advance the paper around the platen.

6. Set the paper release lever to the back position.



7. Hold down the **FEED** button on the control panel while you turn on the printer. When the printing starts, release the **FEED** button.

8. To stop the self-test at any time, turn off the printer.

The following is a sample of a Pinwriter self-test.

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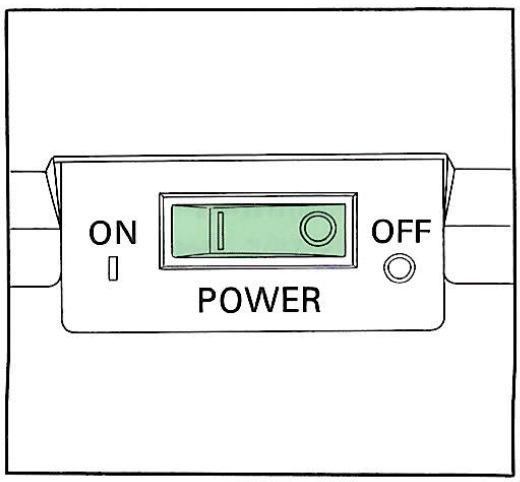
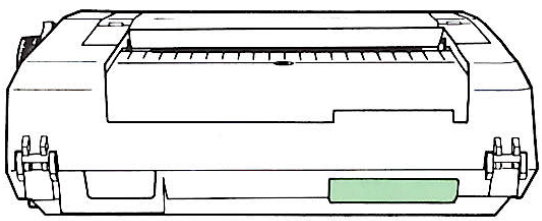
INTERFACE CABLE

An interface cable must be purchased separately to connect the Pinwriter to your computer. Your Pinwriter has been configured with either a parallel interface or a serial interface which includes a 20 mA current loop.

Section 1 of your technical reference guide contains helpful cable information. Contact your Pinwriter or computer dealer to make sure you get the right cable.



1. Make sure the power is off.



2. Connect one end of the cable to the interface port in the back of your Pinwriter. Connect the other end of the cable to the interface port in the back of your computer.

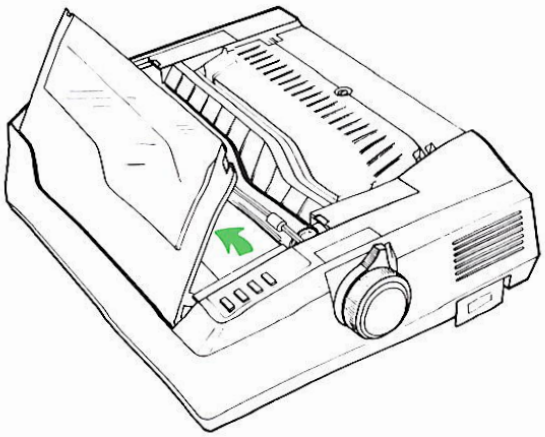
SWITCH SETTINGS

Consult your dealer for the appropriate switch settings for your computer system. If you need to change a switch setting, see your technical reference guide for assistance. Section 2 provides printer switch settings and Section 3 provides serial interface switch settings.

Using Your Pinwriter

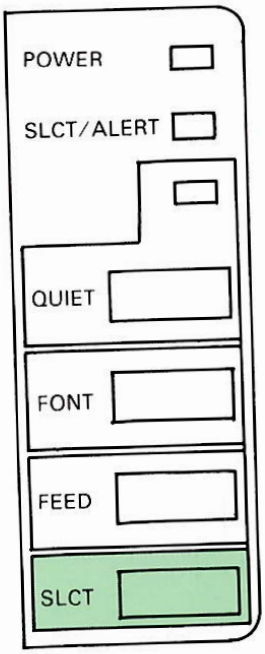
The following sections describe how to use the features on your Pinwriter.

ACRYLIC COVER



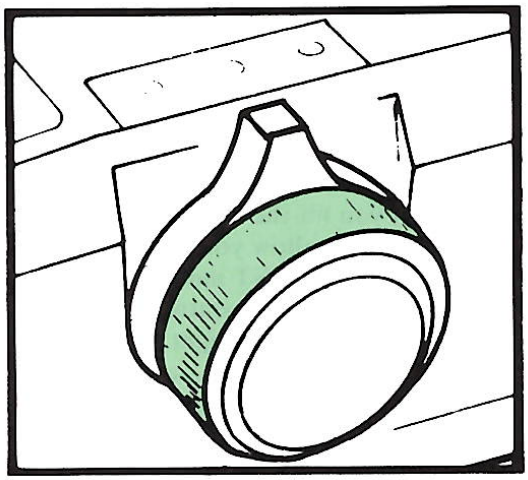
When you lift the acrylic cover, printing stops to allow you to change the ribbon. The FONT indicator displays the cover-open (C) status message, and the SLCT/ALERT light flashes.

Opening the acrylic cover automatically "deselects" the printer.



To continue printing, close the cover and press the **SLCT** button.

PLATEN KNOB



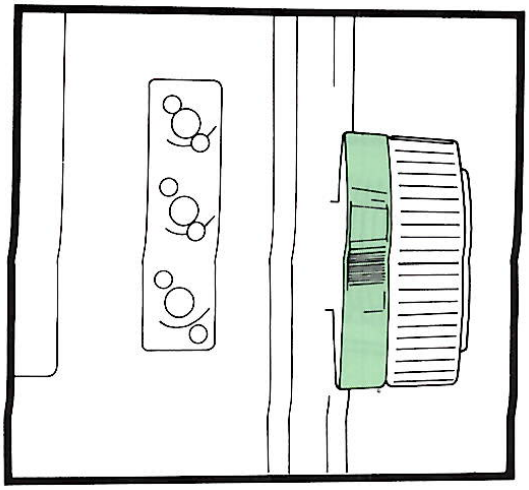
Use the platen knob to advance paper manually around the platen.

PAPER RELEASE LEVER

Use this setting to print cut sheets.

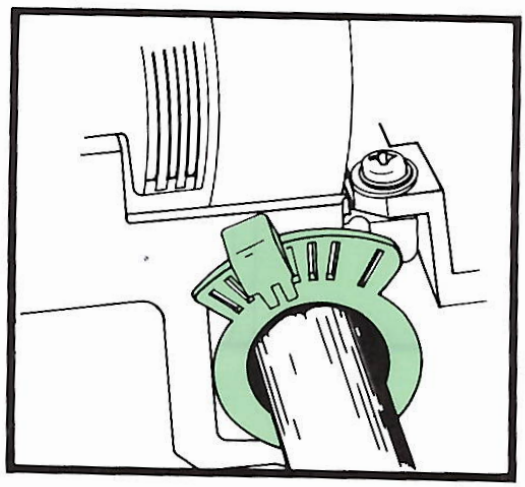
Use this setting to load cut sheets.

Use this setting to reposition loaded paper and when using the Unidirectional Tractor or Bidirectional Tractor.



COPY CONTROL LEVER

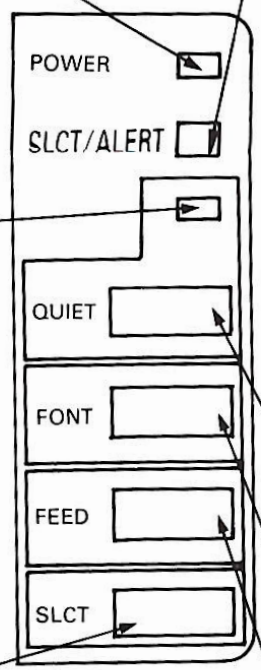
Adjust the copy control lever according to the thickness of the paper or the number of sheets in a multipart form. The lever is located on the left and right sides of the print head.



Setting 3 is the factory setting. Use this setting for a single sheet of paper, and increase the setting accordingly for multi-part forms.

CONTROL PANEL

The buttons and lights of the control panel allow you to easily operate the printer and monitor its status.



POWER Light

LIGHTS WHEN THE PRINTER IS ON

SLCT/ALERT Light

REMAINS ON WHEN THE PRINTER IS SELECTED AND THERE ARE NO ERRORS OR FAULTS

FLASHES SLOWLY IN CASE OF:

- Paper out
- Cover open

FLASHES RAPIDLY IN CASE OF:

- Fault
- Parity/Communication error
- Cut Sheet Feeder jam
- Check condition
- Printhead shutdown

QUIET Light

ON Quiet Mode is selected
OFF Normal Mode is selected

QUIET Button

PRESS TO ALTERNATE BETWEEN QUIET MODE AND NORMAL MODE

FONT Button

PRESS TO SELECT A CHARACTER FONT

SLCT Button

PRESS TO ALTERNATE BETWEEN SELECTED AND DESELECTED STATE

PRESS TO SUSPEND PRINTING. PRESS AGAIN TO CONTINUE PRINTING

FEED Button

PRESS AND RELEASE TO ADVANCE PAPER ONE LINE

PRESS AND HOLD TO PERFORM FORM FEED

PRESS AND HOLD WHILE TURNING ON PRINTER TO PERFORM SELF-TEST

FONT SELECTION

The font indicator, located inside the printer to the right of the switches, displays the printer's font and mode status.

The FONT button works only when the SLCT light is off. To change fonts, the printer must be deselected.

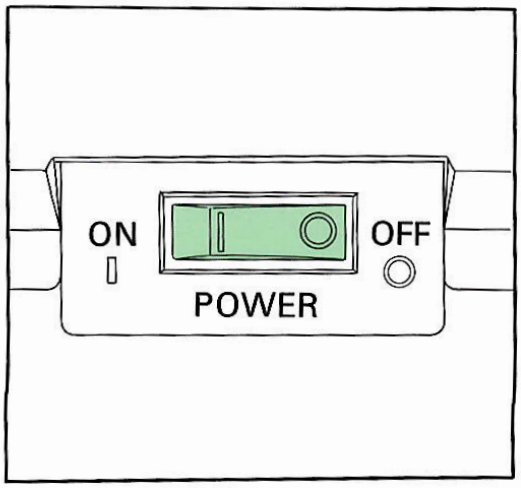
To change fonts, press the **FONT** button until the font you want appears on the indicator. See the table below.

Font Selections

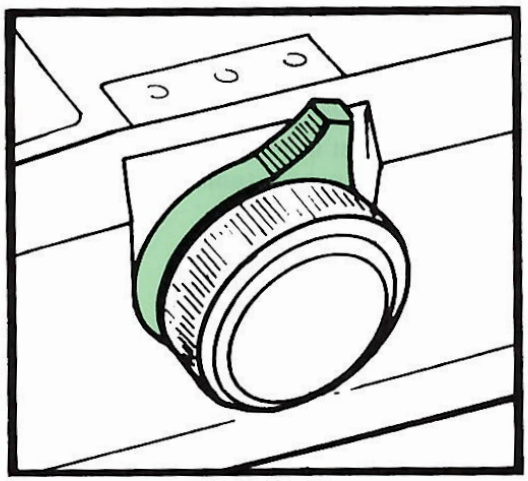
DISPLAY	SELECTION
0	Letter-quality 10 cpi
1	Letter-quality 12 cpi
2	Letter-quality 15 cpi
3	Letter-quality proportional spacing
4	Draft 10 cpi
5	Draft 12 cpi
6	Draft high speed 12 cpi
7	Draft 15 cpi
8	Draft 17 cpi
9	Draft 20 cpi
A	Host load

You can select any font through software control. Refer to your technical reference guide for programming codes.

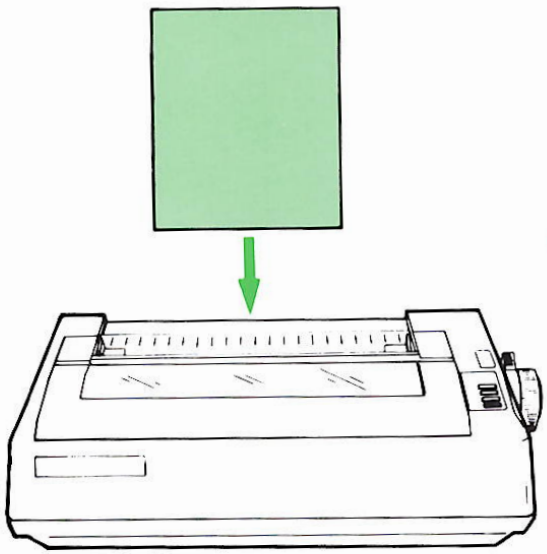
AUTOMATIC PAPER LOADING



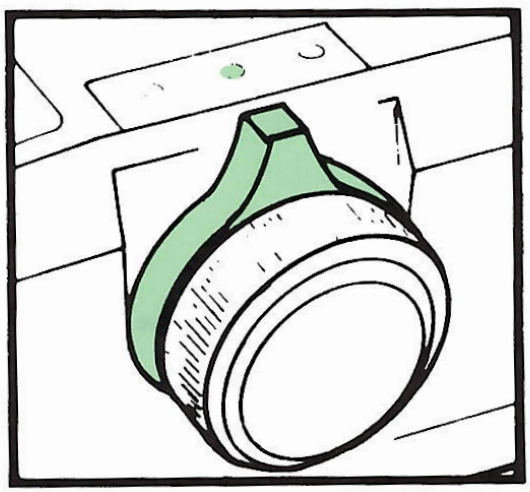
1. Turn the printer on.



2. Set the paper release lever to the back position.



3. Insert a sheet of paper into the printer using the paper guides and ruler to center it.



4. Move the paper release lever to the center position.

   The print head is centered and the paper moves automatically to the first print line.

5. Set the paper release lever to the back position.

   The printer is now ready to receive print commands.

PAPER DIMENSIONS

The P6 will accept paper from 4.5 in. (104.3 mm) to 10 in. (254 mm) wide.

The P7 will accept paper from 5 in. (127 mm) to 16 in. (407.4 mm) wide.

Both the P6 and P7 can print an original and up to three copies.

PAPER HANDLING OPTIONS

You can purchase a number of paper handling options for use with your Pinwriter. To purchase any of the items listed below, see your NEC dealer.

Paper Handling Options

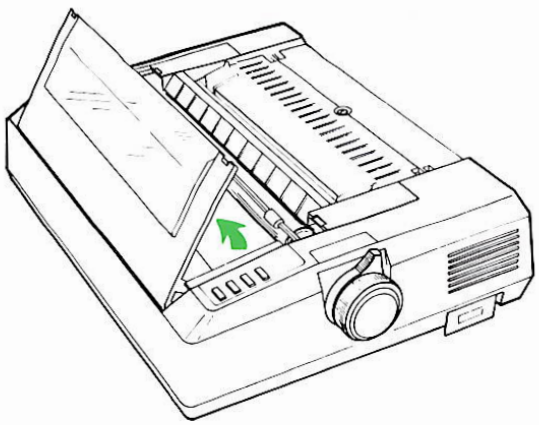
OPTION	ORDER NUMBER	
	P6	P7
Cut Sheet Guide	4201	4301
Bidirectional Tractor	4202	4302
Cut Sheet Feeder	4203	4303
Unidirectional Tractor	4209	4309

Maintaining Your Pinwriter

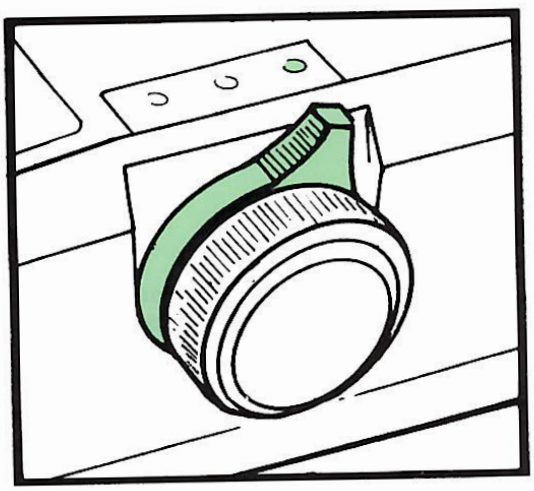
RIBBON CHANGING

Change the fabric ribbon when the print becomes faint.

To avoid losing information sent from your computer to the Pinwriter, do not turn off the power when you change the ribbon.

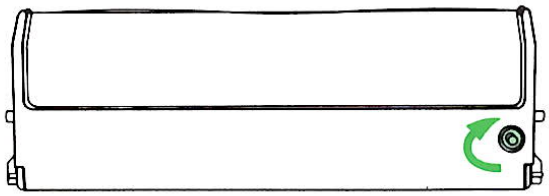


1. Open the acrylic cover.

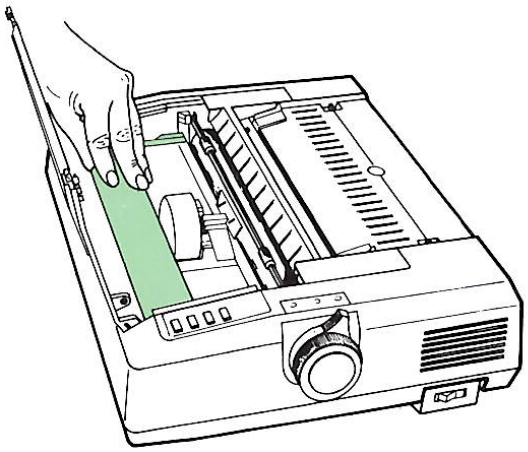


2. Make sure the paper release lever is in the back position.

3. Pull up gently on the ribbon cartridge to remove the studs from the printer frame.

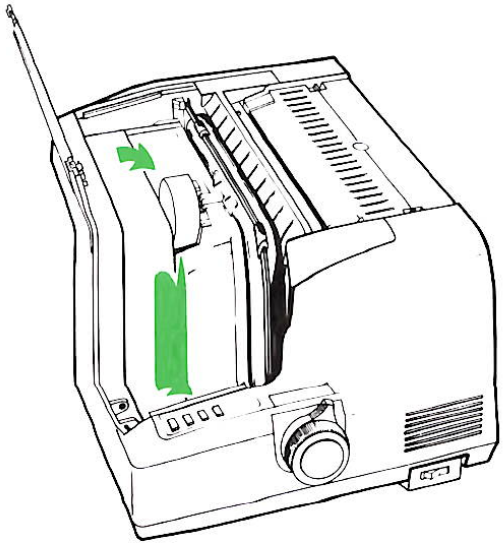


4. Turn the feed knob on the new ribbon in the direction of the embossed arrow to tighten the ribbon.

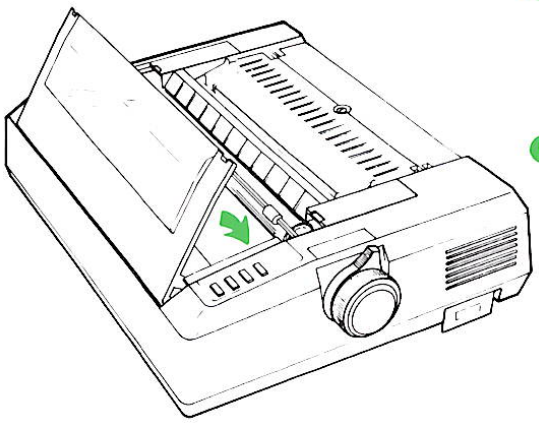


5. With the feed knob up, gently insert the new ribbon cartridge into the slots on the printer frame.

6. Slide the exposed ribbon between the card holder and the ribbon guides.



7. Press down gently on the sides of the ribbon cartridge until it snaps into place.



8. Turn the manual feed knob again to make sure the ribbon is tight.

9. Close the acrylic cover.

PRINT QUALITY MAINTENANCE

Here are some suggestions for maintaining the highest print quality with your Pinwriter.

- Replace dried or malfunctioning ribbon cartridges.
- Use high-quality paper to obtain sharp, crisp characters and maximum black and white contrast.
- Check the copy control setting and adjust it if necessary.
- Keep the platen clean and free from scratches.

PROBLEM SOLVING

Although your Pinwriter is highly reliable, simple problems can occur. The indicators on the Pinwriter's control panel will help you diagnose and correct these simple problems.

Problem Solving

PROBLEM	POSSIBLE CAUSE	CORRECTIVE ACTION
Does not print. The POWER indicator is off.	Power is off.	Plug in the printer and turn on the power.
Does not print. The SLCT/ALERT indicator is off.	Printer is not selected.	Press the **SLCT** button.
Does not print. SLCT/ALERT indicator flashes showly and a "C" flashes on the FONT indicator.	Acrylic cover is open.	Close the acrylic cover and press the **SLCT** button.
Does not print. SLCT/ALERT indicator flashes slowly and a "P" flashes on the FONT indicator.	Printer is out of paper.	Load paper and press the **SLCT** button.
Does not print. SLCT/ALERT indicator and QUIET indicator flash simultaneously and an "H" flashes on the FONT indicator.	Print head is overheated.	Printing resumes automatically when print head cools.
Printing does not start at top of the page.	Top of form is not set correctly.	Move paper to the top of the page.
Print is faded.	Ribbon needs replacing.	Replace ribbon.
	Copy control lever is set incorrectly.	Adjust copy control lever.
Print is smudged.	Copy control lever is set incorrectly.	Adjust copy control lever.

USER'S COMMENTS FORM

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