

EPSON[®] STYLUS[®] 1500

INK JET PRINTER

Setup and Software Guide for Windows[®]

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This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio or television reception. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause interference to radio and 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 or more of the following measures.

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

WARNING

The connection of a non-shielded equipment interface cable to this equipment will invalidate the FCC Certification of this device and may cause interference levels which exceed the limits established by the FCC for this equipment. It is the responsibility of the user to obtain and use a shielded equipment interface cable with this device. If this equipment has more than one interface connector, do not leave cables connected to unused interfaces. Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the manufacturer could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

For Canadian Users

This digital apparatus does not exceed the Class B limits for radio noise emissions from digital apparatus as set out in the radio interference regulations of the Canadian Department of Communications.

Le présent appareil numérique n'émet pas de bruits radioélectriques dépassant les limites applicables aux appareils numériques de Classe B prescrites dans le règlement sur le brouillage radioélectrique édicté par le Ministère des Communications du Canada.

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Introduction

The EPSON® Stylus® 1500 is an affordable, high-quality ink jet printer that produces realistic grayscale images, sharp text, and line art at a resolution of 720 × 720 dpi. The Stylus 1500 comes equipped for printing in black ink; however, you can easily upgrade it to print in color with the optional Color Upgrade Kit. With the Color Upgrade Kit, the Stylus 1500 can print up to 16 million colors to produce full-color, photo-quality images.

The Stylus 1500 is easy to install and use. You simply set it up and install the Microsoft® Windows® printer driver software as described in this book. The printer has a built-in parallel interface so you can connect it to an IBM® PC compatible computer. If you wish to supplement the capabilities of your printer's built-in hardware interface, you can install an optional interface board. See "Using Optional Interfaces" in the *Reference Guide*.

Note:

For instructions on using the printer with an Apple® Macintosh®, see the Setup and Software Guide for Macintosh.

This manual explains how to do the following:

- ❑ Set up your printer, load plain paper, connect it to your computer, and test it. See Chapter 1 to begin.
- ❑ Install and use the printer driver to print your documents. See Chapter 2 for step-by-step instructions.
- ❑ Manage your print jobs and calibrate the printer using the utilities that came with the printer driver; see Chapter 3.

After you've installed the driver, select the ReadMe icon in the EPSON program group in Windows for the latest information.

Refer to the *Reference Guide* for instructions on operating and maintaining your printer, as well as for troubleshooting tips and technical specifications.

Getting the Most Out of Your Printer

The printer supports a wide variety of settings that let you improve print quality or speed up printing. You can customize these settings using the printer driver to produce a variety of image types with EPSON's specially formulated inks and papers.

Three Resolutions to Choose From

Resolution is a measure of the amount of detail that can be represented. The higher the resolution, the more detailed and realistic the image, and the longer it takes to print. For printed images, resolution is measured in dots per inch (dpi).

The printer has three resolutions, or printing modes: 720 dpi, 360 dpi, and 180 dpi. Use 720 dpi for the best possible images. For high-quality images in less time, use 360 dpi. When speed is important and draft quality is good enough, use 180 dpi. For guidelines on selecting the best resolution for your print job, see Chapter 2.

Special Papers

The type of paper you use is very important. Although you get good results with plain bond paper, you will get better results by using coated papers because they do not absorb as much ink.

To ensure the best possible quality, EPSON offers special coated papers, glossy papers, and transparencies that are formulated specifically for the inks used by the printer. You can order these products directly from EPSON Accessories at (800) 873-7766 (U.S. sales only). For more information about special papers and other media, see Chapter 1 of the *Reference Guide*.

Specially Formulated Ink

EPSON's black and color ink cartridges are specially formulated to work with EPSON papers and the driver to deliver the best looking images. Always use genuine EPSON ink cartridges and do not refill them. Other products may cause damage not covered by EPSON's warranties.

Make sure you use ink cartridges within six months of installing them and before the expiration date on the package.

Automatic Printer Driver Settings

The printer driver includes an automatic Document Type option that sets the Ink, Color Matching, and Halftone printer driver settings for you. When set, the driver analyzes the elements on a page to be printed and automatically adjusts the settings so your printed results are appropriate for the image type.

Where to Get Help

If you purchased your printer in the United States or Canada, EPSON provides customer support and service through a network of Authorized EPSON Customer Care Centers. In the United States and Canada, EPSON also provides the following services when you dial (800) 922-8911:

- Technical information on the installation, configuration, and operation of EPSON products
- Assistance in locating your nearest Authorized EPSON Reseller or Customer Care Center
- Customer relations
- EPSON technical information library fax service
- Product literature on current and new products.

You can purchase ink cartridges, paper, parts, printed manuals, and accessories for EPSON products from EPSON Accessories at (800) 873-7766 (U.S. sales only). In Canada, call (800) BUY-EPSON.

If you purchased your printer outside the United States or Canada, contact your EPSON dealer or the marketing location nearest you for customer support and service.

If you need help with any software program you are using, see that program's documentation for technical support information.

Electronic Support Services

If you have a modem, the fastest way to access helpful tips, specifications, drivers, application notes, and bulletins for EPSON products is through the online services below.

EPSON Bulletin Board Service

You can call the EPSON Bulletin Board Service (BBS) at (310) 782-4531. No membership is required. Make sure your communications software is set to 8 data bits with 1 stop bit, no parity bit, and a modem speed up to 28.8 Kbps. See the documentation that came with your communications software for more information.

CompuServe Online Support

CompuServe® members can call the Epson America Forum on CompuServe. If you are already a member, simply type GO EPSON at the menu prompt to reach the Forum.

If you are not currently a member, you are eligible for a free introductory membership as an owner of an EPSON product. This membership entitles you to:

- ❑ An introductory credit on CompuServe
- ❑ Your own user ID and password
- ❑ A complimentary subscription to CompuServe Magazine, CompuServe's monthly publication.

To take advantage of this offer, call (800) 848-8199 in the United States and Canada and ask for representative #529. In other countries, call the following U.S. telephone number: (614) 529-1611, or your local CompuServe access number.

Important Safety Instructions

Before using your printer, read the following safety instructions to make sure you use it safely and effectively:

- ❑ Turn off and unplug the printer before cleaning. Clean with a damp cloth only. Do not spill liquid on the printer.
- ❑ Do not place the printer on an unstable surface or near a radiator or heat register.
- ❑ Do not block or cover the openings in the printer's cabinet or insert objects through the slots.
- ❑ Use only the type of power source indicated on the printer's label.
- ❑ Connect all equipment to properly grounded power outlets; do not use an adapter plug. Avoid using outlets on the same circuit as photocopiers or air control systems that regularly switch on and off.
- ❑ Do not let the power cord become damaged or frayed.
- ❑ If you use an extension cord with the printer, make sure the total ampere rating of the devices plugged into the extension cord does not exceed the cord's ampere rating. Also, make sure the total of all devices plugged into the wall outlet does not exceed 15 amperes.
- ❑ Except as specifically explained in the *Reference Guide*, do not attempt to service the printer yourself.
- ❑ Unplug the printer and refer servicing to qualified service personnel under the following conditions:

If the power cord or plug is damaged; if liquid has entered the printer; if the printer has been dropped or the cabinet damaged; if the printer does not operate normally or exhibits a distinct change in performance. Adjust only those controls that are covered by the operating instructions.

Setting Up the Printer

As you follow the instructions in this chapter to set up your printer, refer to the illustrations on the inside front cover to identify the printer's components.

System Requirements

To use your printer and its driver, we recommend you have the following system configuration:

- ❑ IBM[®] compatible computer with an 80386/25 MHz or faster processor
- ❑ Microsoft Windows 3.1, Windows for Workgroups 3.1, or Windows 95
- ❑ At least 8MB of available RAM (more for Windows 95)
- ❑ A minimum of 10MB of available hard disk space (for storing images); more is required for color images
- ❑ A shielded, twisted-pair parallel cable to connect your computer to the printer's built-in parallel interface; the cable must have a D-SUB, 25-pin, male connector for the computer and a 36-pin, Centronics[®] compatible connector for the printer.
- ❑ VGA or higher standard monitor.

Choosing a Location

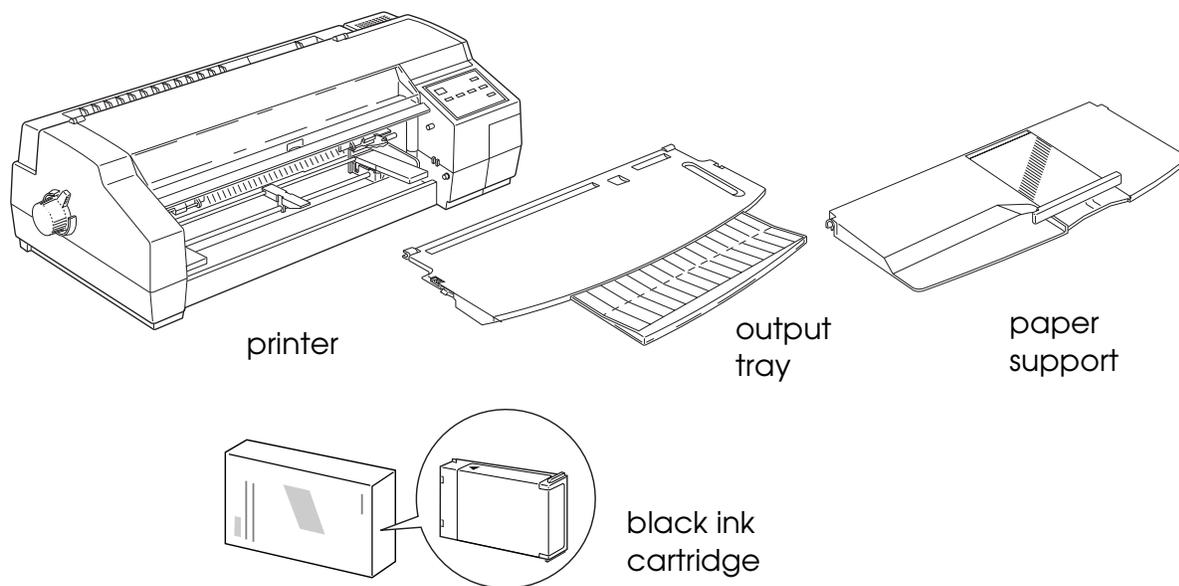
When choosing a location for the printer, use a surface that is flat, horizontal, and stable. If you are using a printer stand, it must support at least 50.7 pounds (23 kg).

Avoid locations subject to rapid changes in temperature and humidity. Also keep the printer away from direct sunlight, heat sources, and sources of electromagnetic interference, such as the base units of cordless telephones.

Always leave adequate space around the printer to accommodate its cables. Make sure nothing is pressing against the knob on the left side of the printer.

Unpacking the Printer

In addition to this guide, your printer box should include two EPSON printer driver diskettes, a *Reference Guide*, a *Setup and Software Guide for Macintosh*, a Notice Sheet, and these items:

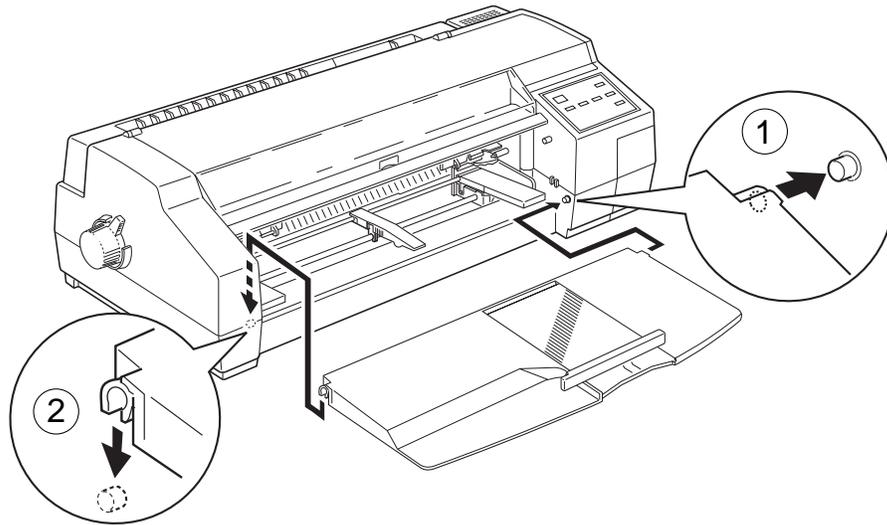


You must remove all protective materials packed around and inside your printer before you set it up and turn on the power. Follow the directions on the Notice Sheet (packed with the printer) to remove these materials.

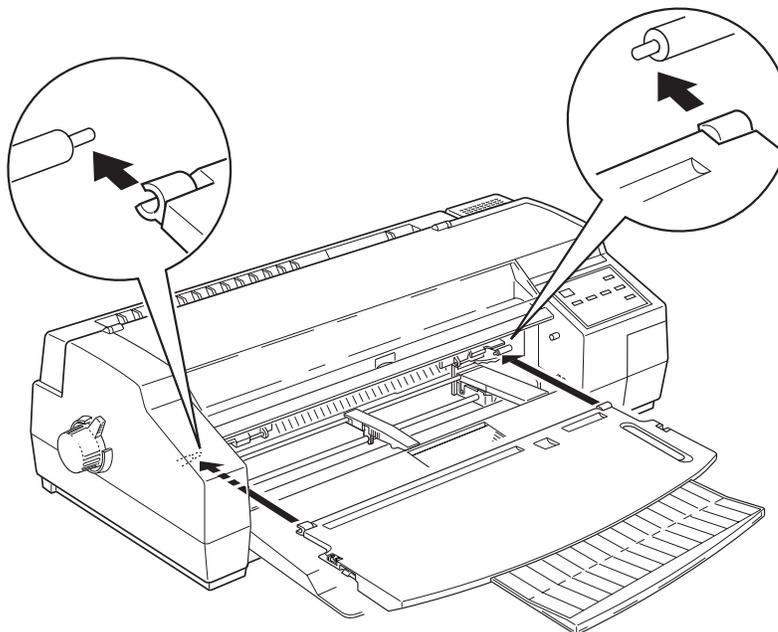
Save all packaging and protective materials in case you need to transport the printer in the future. It should always be transported in its original packaging or equivalent materials.

Attaching the Paper Support and Output Tray

1. Attach the paper support by placing the hole on the right side of the support over the right mounting post on the printer. Then push the notch on the left side onto the left mounting post.



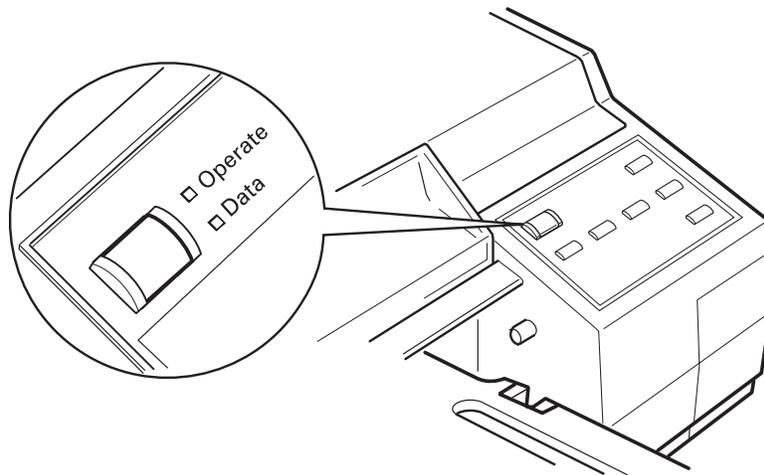
2. Attach the output tray by fitting the notches on the tray over the mounting posts, as shown below. Make sure the output tray is locked firmly in place.



Plugging In and Turning On the Printer

Follow these steps to plug in and turn on the printer:

1. Make sure you have removed all protective packing materials from inside the printer. (See page 1-2 for more information.)
2. Make sure the printer is turned off by checking the position of the Operate button. The printer is off when the surface of the button is even with the button protectors on each side.



3. Plug the power cord into a properly grounded electrical outlet.
4. Turn on the printer by pressing the Operate button. The Pause light flashes while the printer completes its power-on routine. During the power-on routine, the print head moves back and forth and the paper feed wheels turn.

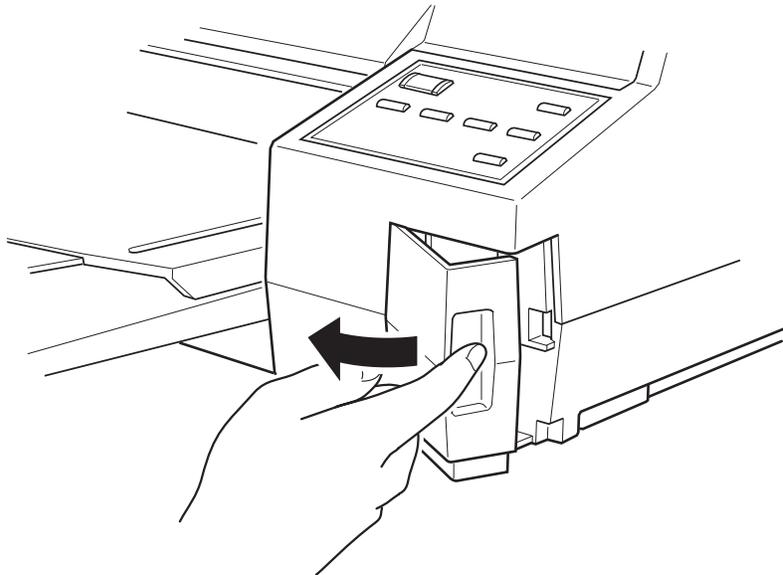
Installing the Black Ink Cartridge

Follow the steps in this section to install your printer's black ink cartridge.

W **Warning:** *The ink cartridge is a self-contained unit. Under ordinary use, ink will not leak from a cartridge. If ink gets on your hands, wash them thoroughly with soap and water. If ink gets into your eyes, flush them immediately with water.*

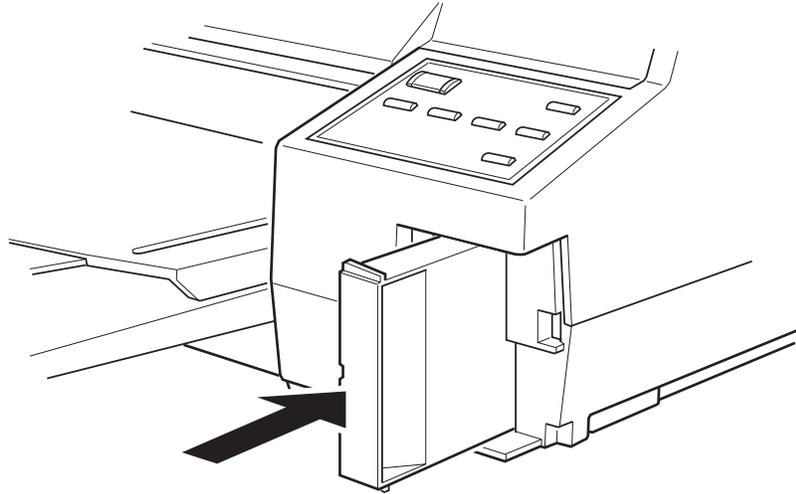
C **Caution:** *Do not open the ink cartridge package until just before you install it or it may become too dry.*

1. Make sure the printer is turned on.
2. Remove the ink compartment cover as shown.



3. Remove the ink cartridge from its package.

4. Insert the end of the cartridge with the foil plug into the ink compartment following the instructions on the cartridge. Push the cartridge all the way into the compartment. You will feel some resistance.

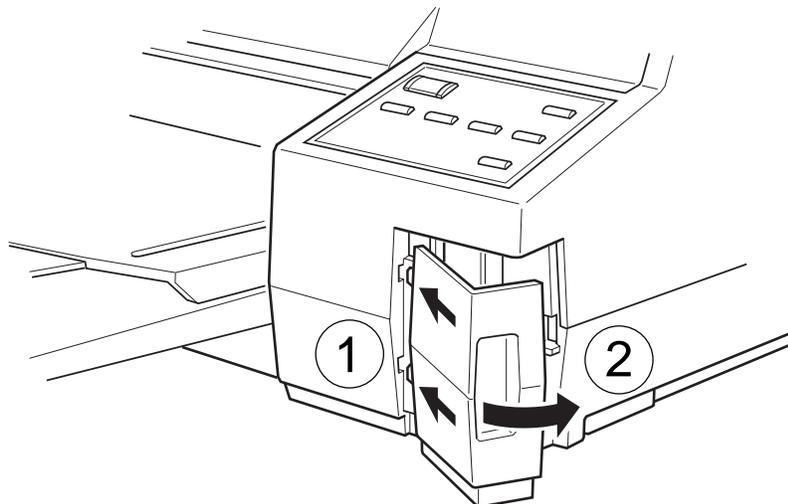


When the cartridge is correctly installed, the Ink Out \circ light goes off.

Note:

If the Ink Out \circ light remains on, the ink cartridge may not be installed correctly. Remove it and then reinsert it as described above.

5. Reattach the ink compartment cover as shown.



The first time you install the ink cartridge, the printer automatically charges the ink delivery system. This takes about two minutes.

C ***Caution:** During the ink charging process, the Pause light flashes. Never turn off the printer while the Pause light is flashing. Also, never remove the ink cartridge while ink is being charged in the system.*

When you need to replace ink cartridges, see Chapter 3 of the Reference Guide for instructions. Be sure to use only genuine EPSON ink cartridges and do not refill them. Other products may cause damage not covered by EPSON's warranty.

Installing the Optional Color Upgrade Kit

You can upgrade your printer to print in color by installing the optional Color Upgrade Kit (C832161). Contact your dealer or call EPSON Accessories at (800) 873-7766 (U.S. only). In Canada, call (800) BUY-EPSON for sales locations.

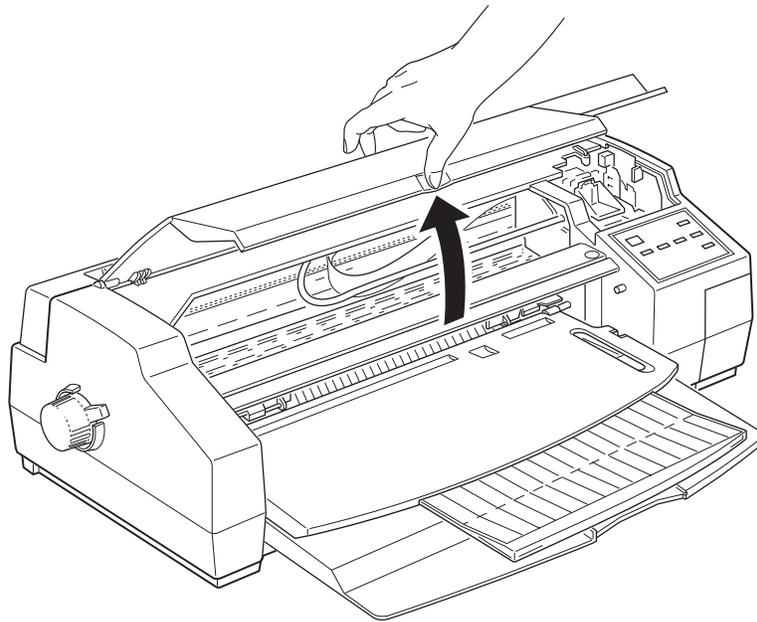
Install the color print head as described in this section and the color ink cartridge as described in the next section. Then select color printing through the printer driver as described in Chapter 2.

C ***Caution:** Once you install the color print head, you must leave it installed. Otherwise, it may become unusable.*

Installing the Color Print Head

Follow these steps to install the color print head:

1. Make sure the printer is turned on and the Data light is off.
2. Open the printer cover using the notch in the middle of the cover.

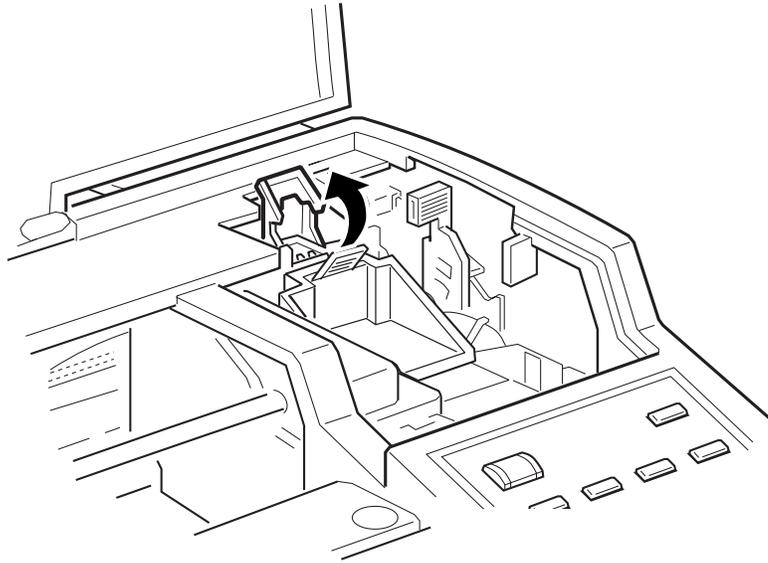


3. Press the Pause button to turn the Pause light on.
4. Hold down the Alt button for about five seconds until the print head unit moves slightly left, to the print head install position. The Pause light flashes.

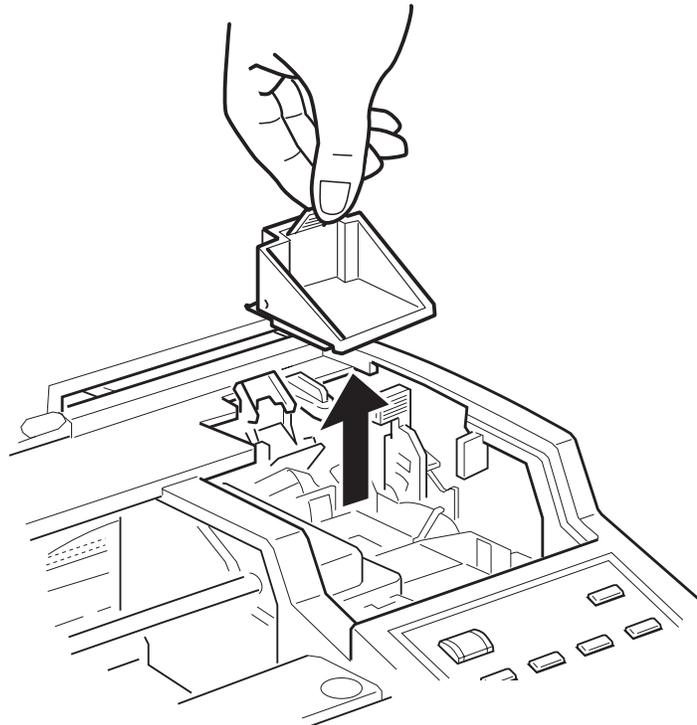
Caution:

C *Do not move the print head unit by hand. Always use the Alt button to move it.*

5. Raise the blue print head unit release lever as far as it will go.

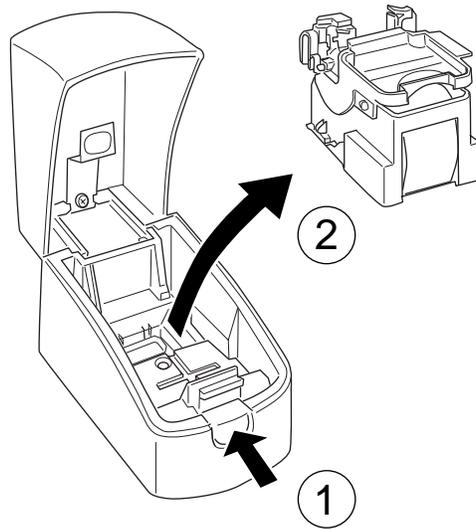


6. Remove the protective cover from the print head compartment.



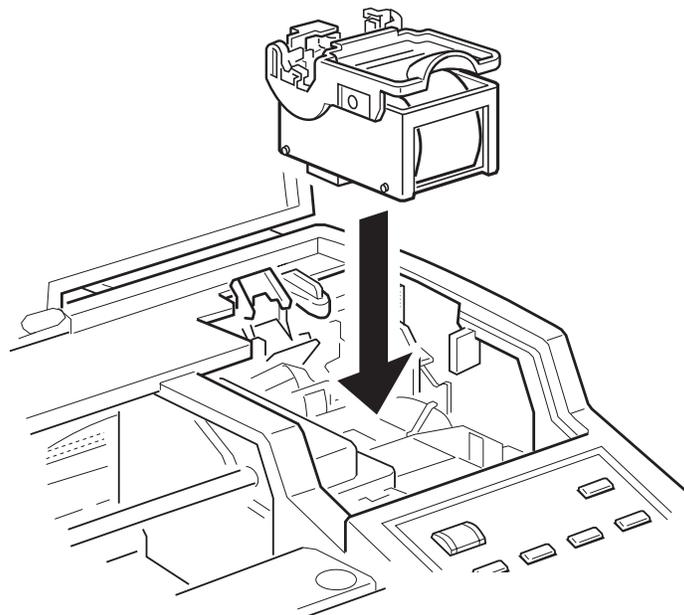
C **Caution:** Do not touch the carriage inside the printer; this may damage the printer.

7. Remove the print head unit from the storage box by pressing on the notch as shown.



C *Caution:*
Do not touch the print head or the electrical contacts on the back and bottom of the unit; otherwise, you may damage the print head.

8. Carefully insert the print head unit into the compartment, with the electrical contacts and print head facing the back of the printer.



9. Press down the blue print head unit release lever until it clicks into place.

Note:

Make sure that the Data and Paper Out lights are not flashing. If they are, remove the print head unit and reinsert it properly.

Caution:

C *Do not remove the color print head unit once you've installed it. Otherwise, the print head may become unusable.*

Now follow the steps in the next section to install the color ink cartridge.

Installing the Color Ink Cartridge

After you install the color print head, follow the steps below to install the color ink cartridge.

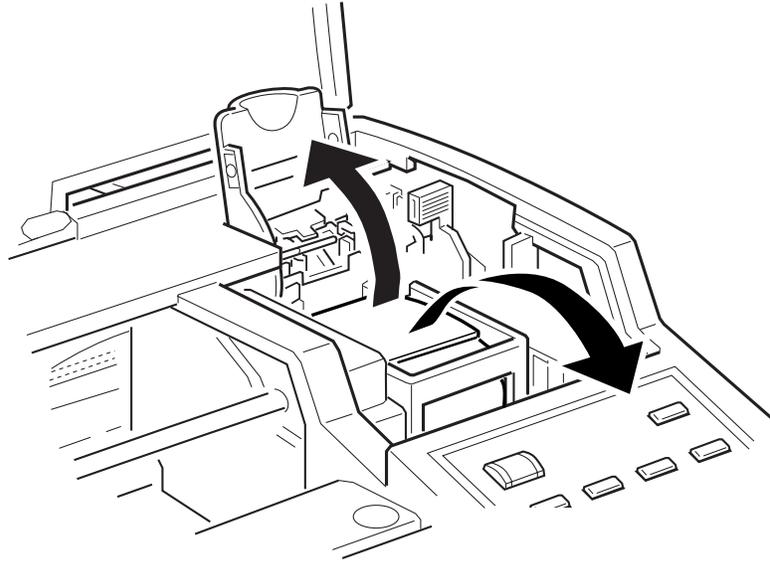
Warning:

W *The ink cartridge is a self-contained unit. Under ordinary use, ink will not leak from a cartridge. If ink does get on your hands, wash them thoroughly with soap and water. If ink gets into your eyes, flush them immediately with water.*

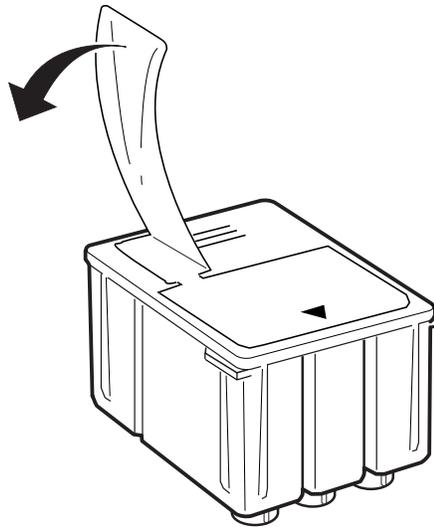
Caution:

C *Do not open the ink cartridge package until just before you install the cartridge, or the ink may dry up.*

1. Lift up the ink cartridge clamp. Then remove the protective sheet from the cartridge holder.

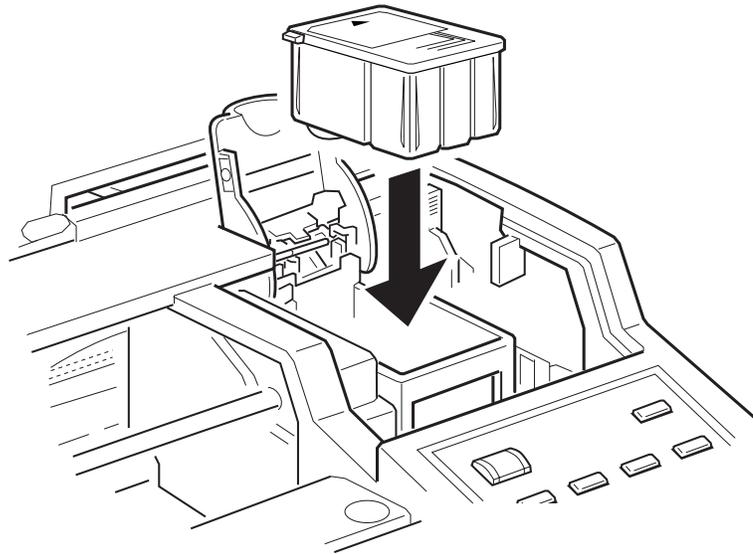


2. Open the ink cartridge package. Next, remove the tape seal from the top of the cartridge as shown.

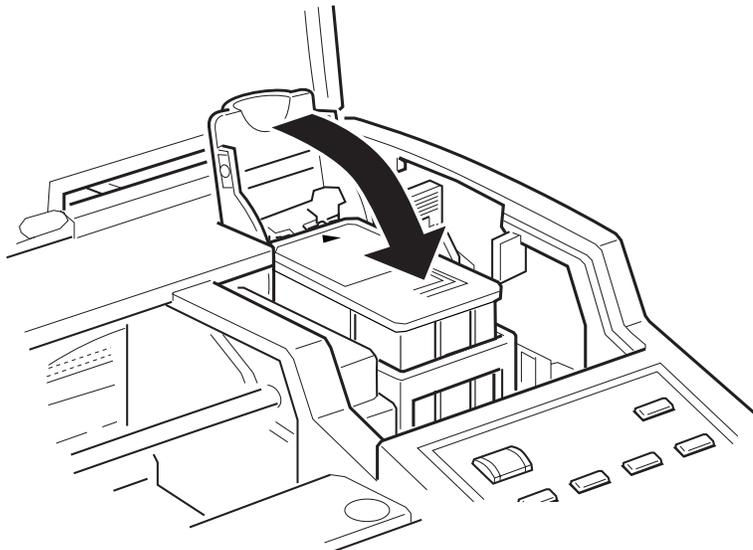


C **Caution:**
Do not remove the tape seal from the bottom of the cartridge; ink will leak out.

3. Lower the cartridge into the print head unit with the label face up and the arrow mark pointing to the rear. Do not push down on the ink cartridge.



4. Press the ink cartridge clamp down until it locks in place. You will feel some resistance.



C **Caution:** Once you install the ink cartridge, do not open the clamp or remove the ink cartridge except to replace it with a new one. Otherwise, the cartridge and print head may become unusable.

5. Press the Alt button again to return the print head unit to its home (far right) position. (Even if you do not press Alt, the printer moves the print head unit back to its home position about 30 seconds after you install the cartridge.)

The first time you install the ink cartridge, the printer automatically charges the ink delivery system and returns the print head unit to its home position. This operation takes about two minutes to complete.

Caution:

C *During the ink charging process, the Pause light flashes. Never turn off the printer while this light is flashing.*

Note:

If you installed the color upgrade unit with data remaining in the printer, you must turn the printer off and back on to enable color printing. You will also have to resend your print data.

In order to maintain optimum print quality, the printer periodically performs a cleaning operation. You may notice the cleaning cycle being performed when the printer has been on for a while without being used or when you turn on the printer after it has been off for a while.

If you need to initiate a cleaning cycle, see Chapter 3 of the *Reference Guide*.

If You Are New to Color Printing

Color printing with the EPSON Stylus 1500 produces amazing images, whether you print text, graphics, line drawings, photographs, or documents containing many different image types. However you use color, keep the following in mind:

- ❑ You need to leave a large amount of hard disk drive space free to make room for your color images. A full-page color photographic image, for example, may require from 10MB to 40MB of disk space, depending on the resolution, and sometimes more. To reduce the file size, you can decrease the size and resolution of your images using your printer driver and application software.
- ❑ Color printing takes time because of the complex processing required to reproduce a color image. How much time depends on the size and type of your image, the resolution you use, the speed of your computer, and the interface type. (Serial printing takes longer than parallel printing.)
- ❑ Your screen colors will not exactly match the printed colors because your monitor screen and the printer use different methods to produce the colors you see. And if you scan images using a scanner, the image goes through another interpretive process that also affects the color.

Monitors and scanners produce colors by combining red, green, and blue—the RGB method. Your monitor can produce up to 16 million colors by turning on and off the tiny red, green, and blue phosphors contained in each pixel on the screen. Colors produced this way differ from colors produced by your printer’s cyan, magenta, yellow, and black ink—the CMYK method.

Your printer driver’s Document Type settings help you closely match colors as appropriate for your image type, resolution, and paper.

If you need extreme precision in matching colors, you can use a color calibration system available with many software applications. If you use a scanner, make sure your scanning software is set to the correct setting for ink jet printers to help you match colors. Also, your application may include image editing capabilities that let you adjust the colors.

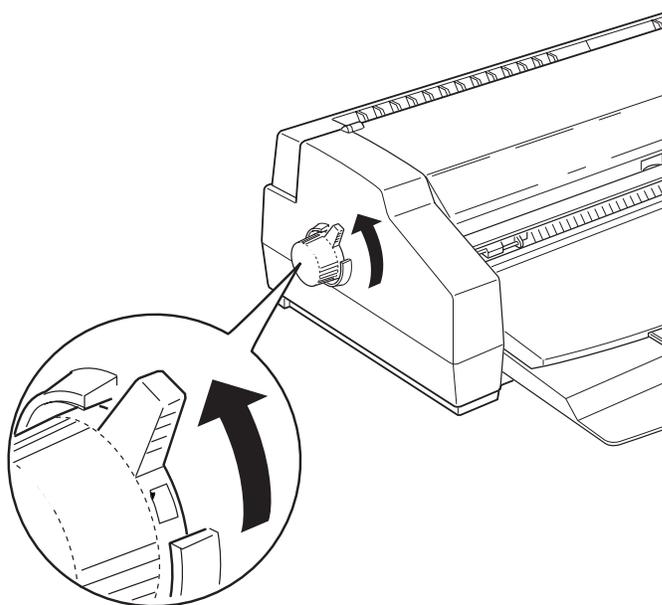
Loading Paper in the Sheet Feeder

The following procedure explains how to load plain bond paper in the sheet feeder. For instructions on loading coated or glossy paper, envelopes, and transparencies in the sheet feeder, or labels and continuous paper in the tractor feeder, see Chapter 1 of the *Reference Guide*.

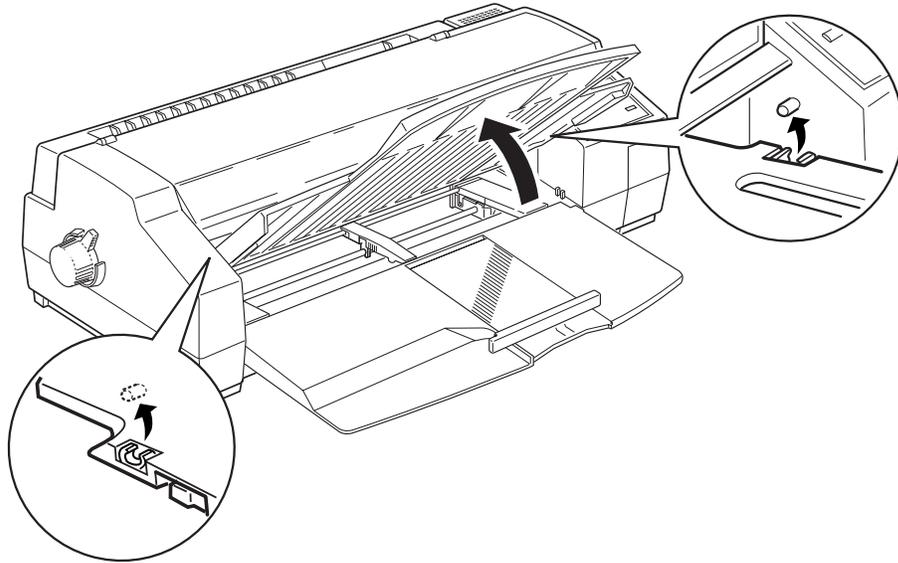
You can load up to 100 sheets of plain paper. For paper specifications, see Appendix B of the *Reference Guide*.

Always load plain paper with the printable surface facing down. The printable surface is marked with an arrow on most plain paper packaging.

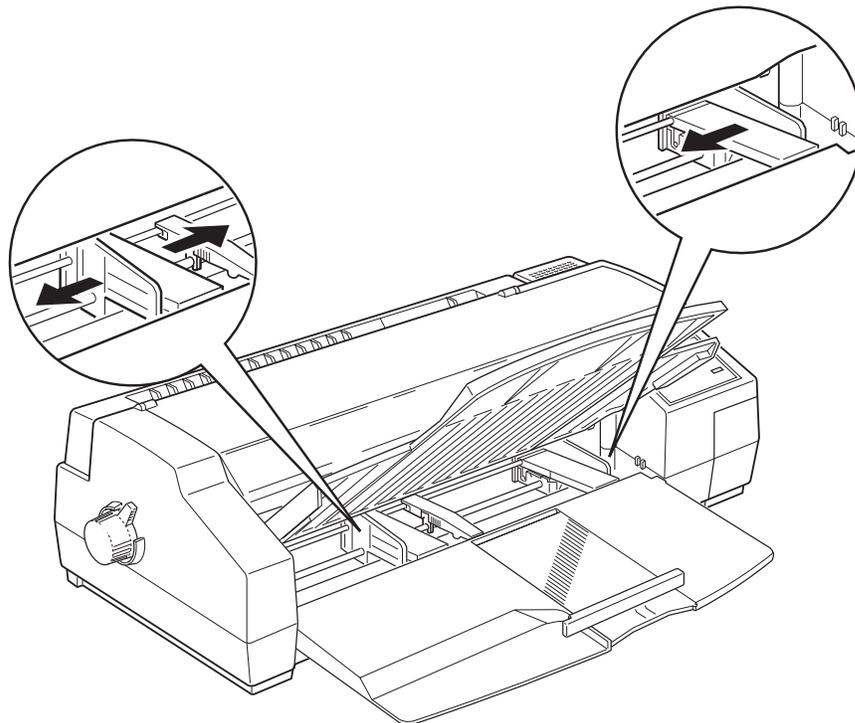
1. Make sure the paper-release lever is set to the single sheet position.



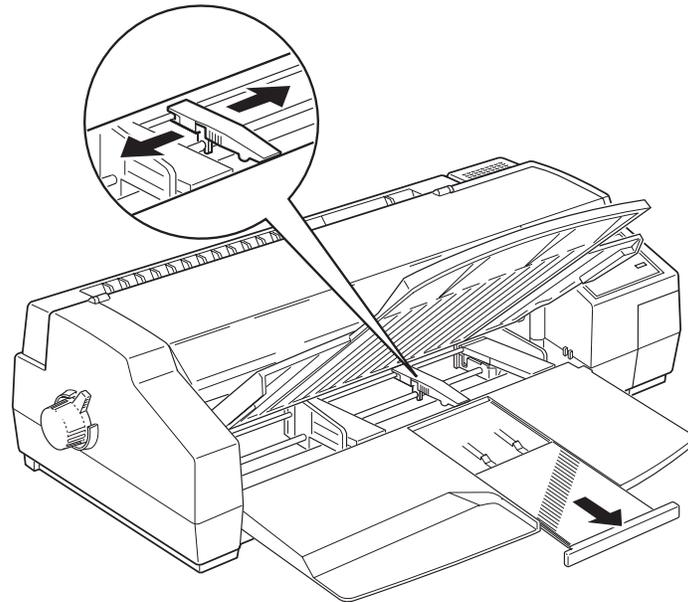
2. Raise the output tray until it locks in the upright position.



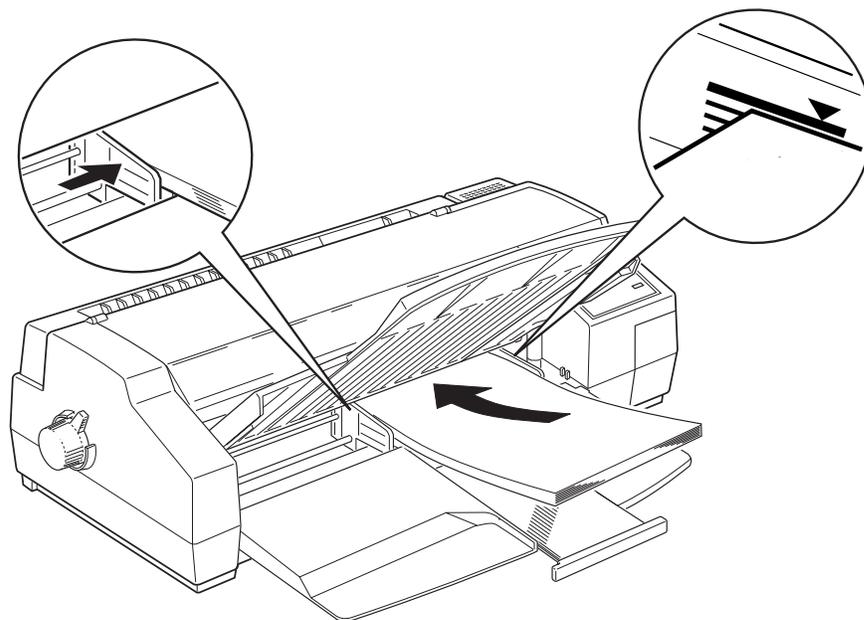
3. Slide the right edge guide to the left as far as it will go. Then slide the left edge guide to match the width of your paper.



4. Move the center support to a point midway between the edge guides. Then gently extend the rear edge guide until it stops.



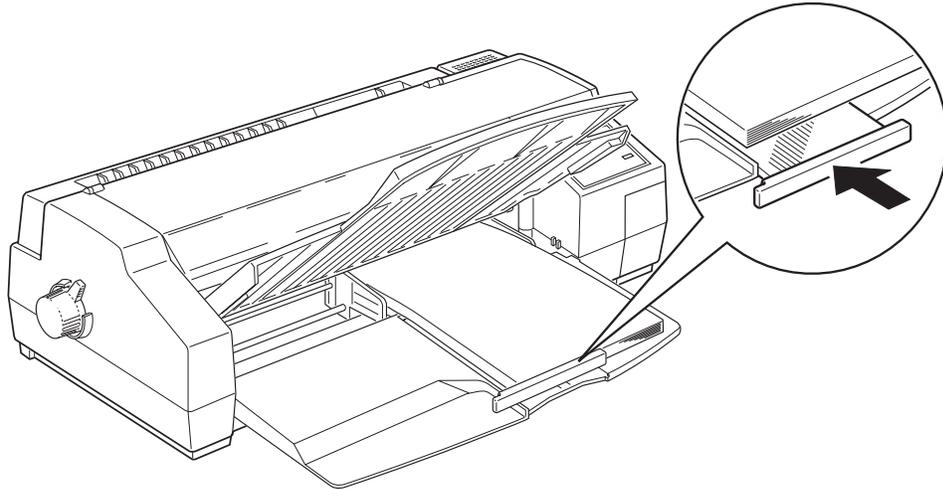
5. Fan a stack of paper; then tap it on a flat surface to even the edges.
6. Load the stack of paper, printable side down, all the way into the sheet feeder. Make sure the right edge of the stack is against the right edge guide. Next, slide the left edge guide against the left edge of the paper.



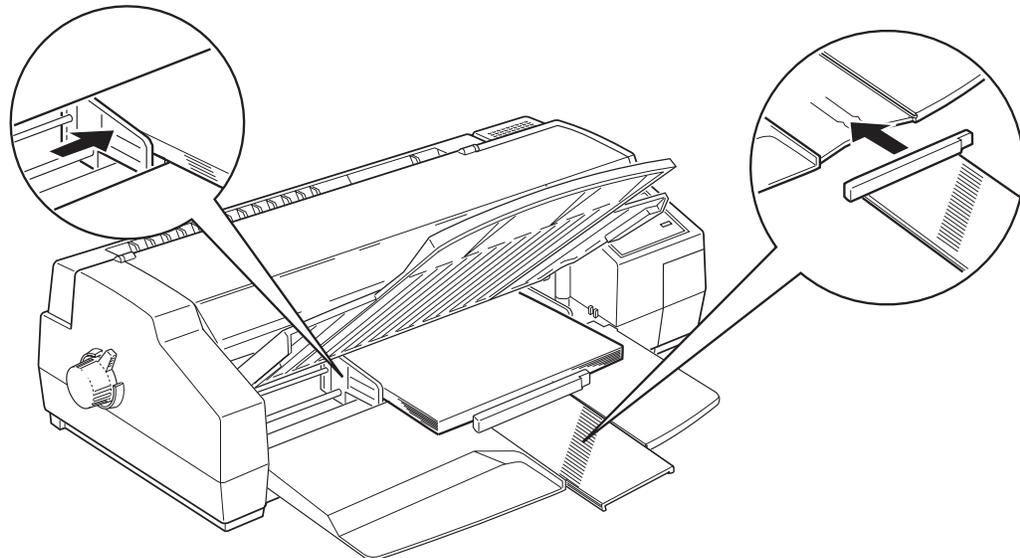
Note:

The sheet feeder can hold up to 100 sheets of 17-lb (64 g/m²) plain paper. Do not load paper above the arrow mark, which is located on the inside surface of the edge guide.

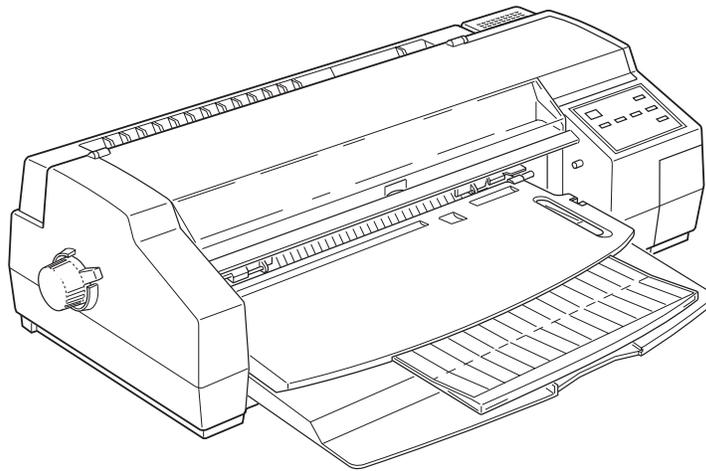
7. Adjust the rear edge guide to match the length of your paper.



When you load paper in the landscape direction (wider than it is tall), the rear edge guide may not match the length of your paper. In this case, remove the rear edge guide and re-insert it as shown.



8. Lower the output tray to the printing position. Make sure that the rear edge guide of the paper tray is positioned under the output tray. The rear edge guide must be under the output tray to allow room for the paper loaded in the sheet feeder and to prevent a paper jam.



Testing the Printer

Before continuing, test the printer to ensure it is functioning properly. For the self test, use paper that is at least 8.25 inches (210 mm) wide. If you load smaller paper, the print head will spray ink directly onto the platen, which could mar future printouts.

1. Press the Operate button to turn off the printer.

C ***Caution:*** *Never turn off the printer by unplugging it or turning off a power strip. Always turn off the printer by pressing the Operate button.*

2. While holding down the Load/Eject button, press the Operate button to turn on the printer. Wait for the paper to load, then release the buttons.

The 360 dpi self test begins by printing in black ink on the first and last lines of the first sheet of paper to measure the page length.

Note:

If the self test does not begin, turn off the printer and repeat step 2. You may need to hold down the buttons a few seconds longer.

If you installed the optional Color Upgrade Kit, the self test prints in color. If you want to run the 180 dpi self test, turn on the printer while holding down the LF/FF button. The 180 dpi self test always prints in black, even when the Color Upgrade Kit has been installed.

3. To end the self test, press the Pause button. If there is paper in the paper path, press the Load/Eject button to eject it. Then turn off the printer. Otherwise, the test continues until the paper in the sheet feeder runs out.

Caution:

C *Do not turn off the printer before pressing the Pause button.*

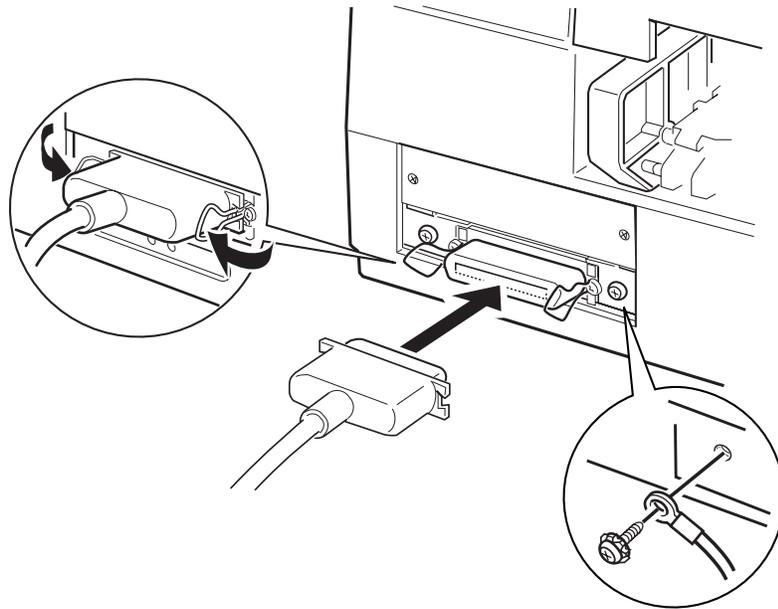
If the quality of the test output is not good, clean the print heads as described in Chapter 3 of the *Reference Guide*. Then print a demonstration page or another self test to check the print quality. You may need to repeat these procedures several times to fully solve the problem.

You may also need to calibrate your printer. After connecting the printer to your PC and installing the printer driver as explained in the following sections, calibrate your printer using the calibration utility program that came with your printer. See Chapter 3 for instructions.

Connecting the Printer to Your PC

You need a shielded, twisted-pair parallel cable to connect your printer to your computer. The cable must have a D-SUB, 25-pin male connector for your computer and a 36-pin, Centronics compatible connector for the printer's parallel interface.

1. Make sure both the printer and computer are turned off.
2. Plug the 36-pin end of the cable connector securely into the printer's interface connector. Then squeeze the wire clips together until they lock in place on both sides. If your cable has a ground wire, attach it to the ground connector next to the interface connector.



3. Plug the 25-pin end of the cable into the computer's parallel interface according to the instructions in your computer manual.
4. Turn on the printer by pressing the Operate button and then turn on your computer.

Now see Chapter 2 for instructions on installing and using the printer driver.

Installing and Using the Printer Driver

This chapter describes how to install the Windows printer driver and use it to control printer settings such as media type, document type, printing mode, and halftoning. (To install a driver for DOS programs, see page 2-7.)

Installing the Windows Printer Driver

A printer driver is software that allows your computer to control the printer. You must install the printer driver on the Windows driver diskette that came with your printer.

Also included on the diskette are two utilities: the EPSON Spool Manager and Printer Calibration Utility. When you install the printer driver, they are automatically copied to your hard disk drive. (See Chapter 3 for instructions on running these utilities.)

Note:

It is a good idea to make a backup copy of your driver diskette.

If you are using Windows 3.1, follow the steps in the next section to install the printer driver. If you are running Windows 95, see page 2-4 for instructions.

Installing the Driver for Windows 3.1

Follow these steps to install the printer driver for Windows 3.1:

1. Turn on your printer and computer.
2. Make sure Windows is running.

3. Insert the Windows printer driver diskette in a diskette drive.
4. In the File menu, select Run. You see the Run dialog box.
5. In the Command Line box, type A:SETUP (or B:SETUP if you inserted the diskette in drive B). Press Enter or click OK. You see the EPSON Printer Driver Setup dialog box.
6. Highlight EPSON Stylus 1500 in the Printer Driver pull-down menu and click Continue.

The installation program begins copying the driver files. You see a screen showing the progress of the installation as it proceeds. After a few moments, the installation program creates the EPSON program group in Windows containing these icons:

- EPSON Calibration Utility
- Spool Manager
- EPSON Stylus Help
- EPSON Stylus ReadMe

When the installation is complete, you see a confirmation screen.

7. Click OK to exit the installation program.
8. Calibrate your printer using the EPSON Calibration Utility. See Chapter 3 for instructions.

The installation program automatically selects the EPSON Stylus 1500 printer as your default printer for Windows applications and assigns the printer driver to port LPT1. If you need to change the default printer driver or the port assignment, see the next section. Otherwise, skip to page 2-8 for instructions on using the driver.

Changing the default printer or printer port

If you want to change your default printer in Windows or if you want to use your printer on a different printer port, follow these steps:

1. In the Main window, double-click the Control Panel icon.
2. Double-click the Printers icon. The Printers dialog box appears.
3. In the Installed Printers pull-down list, select the printer you want to use as your default printer.
4. Click the Set As Default Printer button.

If you do not need to change the printer port assignment for the EPSON Stylus 1500 printer, go to step 9.

5. To change the port assignment, select EPSON Stylus 1500 in the Installed Printer pull-down list.
6. Click the Connect button. You see the Connect dialog box.
7. In the Ports pull-down list, select the port to which you want to assign the EPSON Stylus 1500 printer. (See the Windows Control Panel Help utility for instructions on selecting other options in the Connect dialog box.)
8. Click OK to close the Connect dialog box.
9. Click Close to exit the Printers dialog box.
10. Exit the Control Panel.

See page 2-8 for instructions on using the printer driver.

Installing the Driver for Windows 95

Follow these steps to install the printer software for Windows 95. First you'll install the driver using the Windows 95 plug and-play capabilities; then you'll run the EPSON Printer Driver Setup program to install the printer driver utilities and create an EPSON folder on your hard disk.

Note:

If you originally installed the Stylus 1500 driver under Windows 3.1, you must reinstall the driver under Windows 95.

1. Make sure plain paper is loaded and the printer is connected to the computer's parallel port. (The paper is used to perform a test print in step 12.)
2. Turn off the printer and your computer, if necessary.
3. Turn on the printer first; then turn on the computer. Your computer begins loading Windows 95.
4. If you defined a password in Windows 95, enter it at the prompt. You see the New Hardware Found screen.
5. Your printer model name is displayed on the screen. Click the Driver from disk provided by hardware manufacturer button. Do not select any of the other buttons.
6. Click OK. You see the Install From Disk screen.
7. Insert the Windows printer driver diskette that came with your printer in a diskette drive.
8. If you inserted the diskette in drive A, click OK. Otherwise, change the drive letter in the Copy manufacturer's files from box and click OK. You see the Select Device screen.

9. Make sure your printer model name is selected in the Models pull-down list and click OK.
10. At the next screen you can give the printer a unique name. We recommend that you keep the model name, but you can type a new one in the Printer name box, if desired.

To use the printer as the default printer for all Windows 95 applications, select Yes (No is the default).

11. Click the Next button.
12. At next screen, select Yes to print a test page.
13. Click the Finish button. The program copies the files to your hard disk and adds an icon using the printer name to the Windows 95 Printers group. Then it sends a test page to the printer. Wait for the page to print completely.
14. Select Yes again at the test page confirmation screen if the page printed correctly. (If it did not print correctly, there is probably a problem with the printer connection; check the connection and start over.)

Your computer finishes loading Windows 95.

15. To run the Setup program and install the rest of the printer software in an EPSON folder, click Start; then select Run. You see the Run dialog box.
16. In the Open pull-down menu, type A:SETUP (or B:SETUP if you inserted the diskette in drive B), and click the OK button. You see the EPSON Printer Driver Setup dialog box.
17. Highlight your printer model name in the Printer Driver pull-down menu and click Continue.

18. The installation program begins copying the files to your hard disk and shows the progress of the installation as it proceeds. After the status bar disappears, the driver continues installing for a minute or so. Wait until the EPSON folder and EPSON Printer Driver Setup confirmation screen appear. Then click OK on the confirmation screen to exit the installation program.

The EPSON folder contains these icons:

- EPSON Calibration Utility
- Spool Manager
- EPSON Stylus Help
- EPSON Stylus ReadMe

19. Calibrate your printer using the EPSON Calibration Utility. See Chapter 3 for instructions.

The installation program automatically selects your printer driver as the default printer for Windows 95 applications and assigns the printer driver to port LPT1. If you need to change your default printer driver or the port assignment, see your Windows 95 online help utility for instructions. Otherwise, skip to page 2-9 for instructions on accessing the driver.

Installing a Driver for DOS Programs

Most DOS software programs include drivers for EPSON ESC/P 2™ printers. If the Stylus 1500 driver is not listed in your software, choose the first printer available in the lists below. Also check with your software manufacturer to see if a Stylus 1500 driver is available or is included with a new version of your software.

When printing black and white only, select:

- Stylus 1000
- Stylus 800/800(+)
- LQ-870/1170
- LQ-570(+)/1070(+)
- SQ-870/1070
- LQ-850
- LQ-500

When printing in color as well as black and white, select:

- LQ-860
- LQ-2550
- DLQ-3000

Note:

These drivers let you use your printer but do not support some features, such as 720 dpi and MicroWeave.

Using the Windows Printer Driver

The printer driver contains a variety of settings that allow you to control your print job. For example, you can select the media type, resolution, document type, and halftoning settings that are best for the type of document you are printing. The printer comes with default values for all the settings, as listed in the table on page 2-12. You can leave the settings as they are or change them for your specific needs.

The driver also includes an Automatic option (default) for the Document Type setting. This option lets the printer driver analyze each page of the document you will print and select the appropriate document type, color matching, and halftoning settings automatically. For example, if your document contains text, charts, and photographs, each item on the page will automatically print with the optimum color and halftone.

Accessing the Driver

You can access the driver in different ways, depending on how you want to use the settings you select. If you want the settings to apply to all Windows applications, access the driver as described below for either Windows 3.1 or Windows 95. If you want the changes to apply only to the document(s) you will print in a particular Windows application, see "Accessing the driver from Windows applications," later in this chapter.

Accessing the driver from Windows 3.1

Follow these steps to access the driver from the Windows Control Panel:

1. Double-click the Control Panel icon in the Main program group.
2. Double-click the Printers icon.

3. Choose EPSON Stylus 1500 from the list of Installed Printers.
4. Choose Setup. You see the printer driver dialog box shown on page 2-11.

Accessing the driver from Windows 95

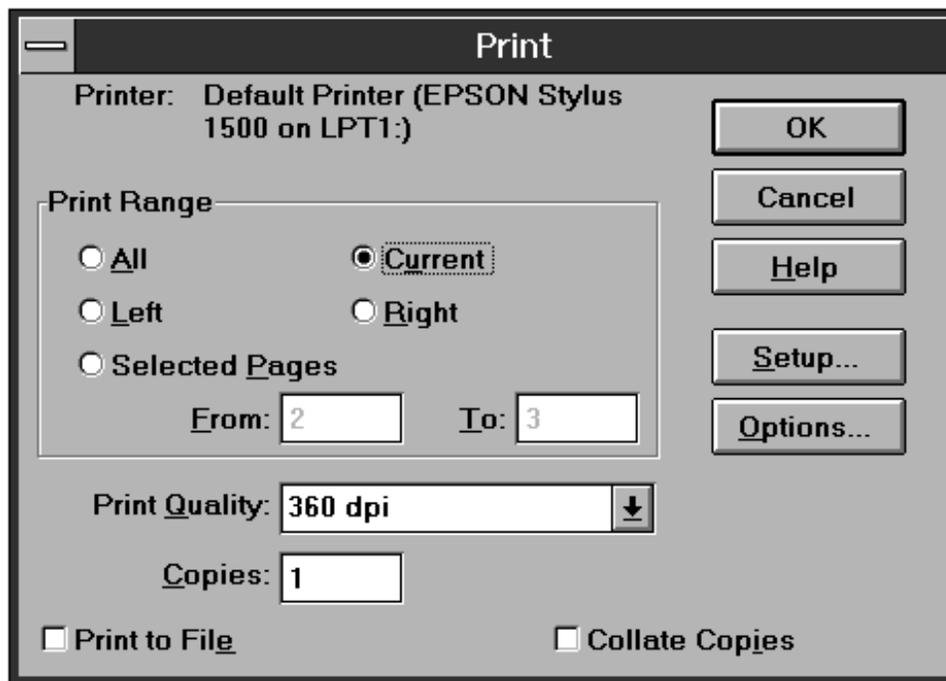
Follow these steps to access the driver from the Windows 95 My Computer group:

1. Double-click the My Computer icon.
2. Double-click the Printers icon.
3. Double-click the EPSON Stylus 1500 icon.
4. Pull down the Printer menu and select Properties.
5. Click the Details tab.
6. Click the Setup button. You see the printer driver dialog box shown on page 2-11.

Accessing the driver from Windows applications

You can access the driver by choosing Print or Print Setup from the File menu of your software program. If you choose Print Setup, you access the printer driver directly and see the dialog box shown on page 2-11.

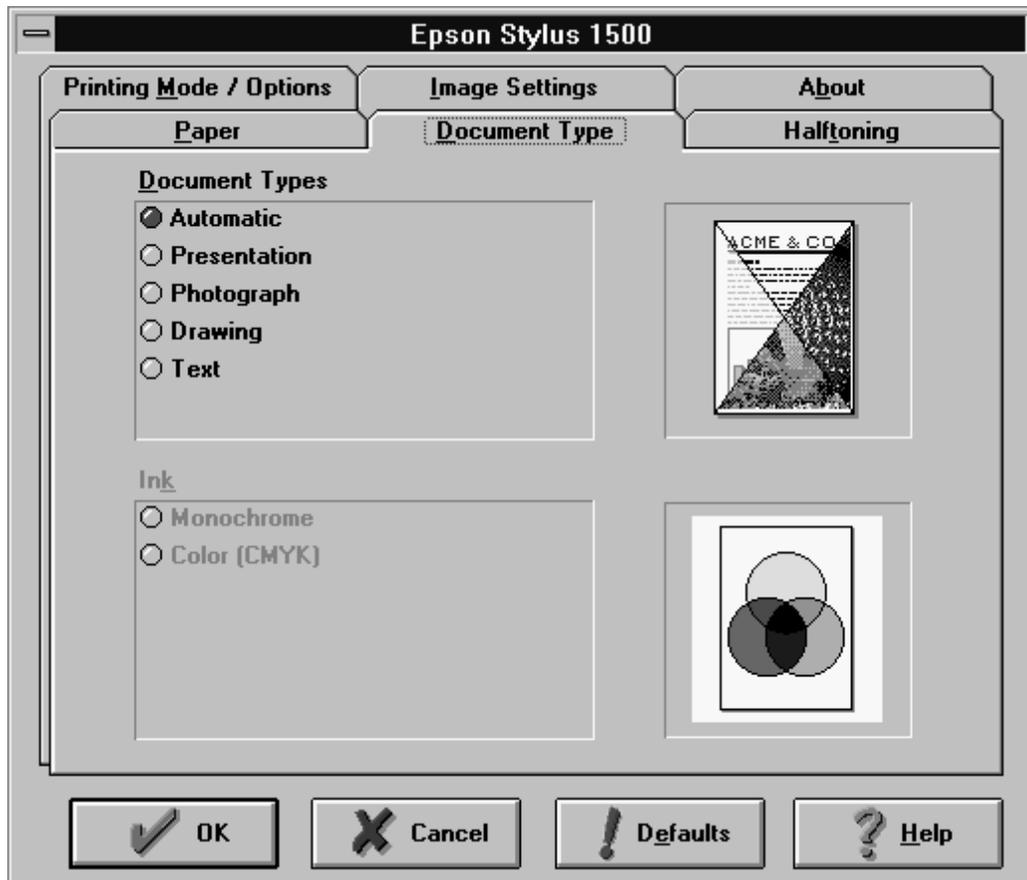
If you choose Print, you first see a Print dialog box similar to the one shown below (depending on your software program).



The Print dialog box contains the settings you change most often, including the number of copies and the print range. To access the printer driver settings, choose the Printer, Setup, or Options button. (You may also need to select Setup and then Options.) The button you select depends on your software program.

Using the Driver Dialog Box

However you accessed the printer driver, you see the following dialog box:



(If you do not see this dialog box, the driver has not been installed correctly. See page 2-1 for instructions on installing the driver.)

At the top of the screen are tabs that open various dialog boxes. The following table summarizes the settings in each dialog box. (Factory defaults are in bold type.) Detailed descriptions of each setting follow the table.

Windows driver settings

Dialog box	Setting	Options
Paper	Paper Size	A4 210 x 297 mm A4 (Centered) 210 x 297 mm A4 (Landscape) 297 x 210 mm Letter 8½ x 11 in Letter (Centered) 8½ x 11 in Letter (Landscape) 11 x 8½ in Legal 8½ x 14 in Legal (Centered) 8½ x 14 in Envelope #10 4¼ x 9½ in Envelope DL 110 x 220 mm Envelope C5 162 x 229 Statement 5½ x 8½ in Executive 7½ x 10 in A6 Index card 105 x 148 mm US B 11 x 17 in US C 17 x 22 in B5 176 x 250 mm B4 250 x 353 mm A3 297 x 420 mm Super A3/B 329 x 483 mm A2 420 x 594 mm Long Paper 17 x 1 to 44 in Fanfold 10 x 11 in Fanfold 15 x 3 to 14 in User Defined
	(Orientation)	Portrait Landscape
	Paper Source	Auto Sheet Feeder Manual Feed Slot Manual Feed Slot (Banner) Tractor Feeder
	Copies	Number (1-99) Collate (On, off) Reverse Page Order (On, off)
Document Type	Document Types	Automatic Presentation Photograph Drawing Text
	Ink	Monochrome Color (CMYK)

Windows driver settings (continued)

Dialog box	Setting	Options
Halftoning	Halftone *	No halftoning Error diffusion Dithering A Dithering B
Printing Mode/ Options	Printing Mode	Super - 720 dpi Best - 360 dpi Draft - 180 dpi
	Media Type	Plain paper Special coated paper for 360 dpi Special coated paper for 720 dpi High-quality glossy paper Transparency
	Print Options	MicroWeave (On, off) High Speed (On , off)
Image Settings	Brightness	-50% - 0% - +50%
	Contrast	-50% - 0% - +50%
	Color Matching *	Off Vivid Photo-realistic Standard
About	—	Gives driver version information

* These options have no default setting; the setting is determined automatically depending on the Document Type setting.

Changing Settings

To change a printer setting, open the appropriate dialog box by choosing the tab. Change one or more settings and then move to the next tab you want to change. When you have made all changes in one or more dialog boxes, choose the OK button to save all the settings. This closes the printer driver and returns you to your application program or Windows.

Note:

The availability of options or settings in a dialog box may depend on the setting selected in another dialog box. Therefore, you may not see all options or settings listed, or some of them may be grayed out.

If you want to return all the printer driver settings to their factory defaults, choose Defaults. To exit the printer driver without saving your settings, choose Cancel.

For more information about the settings, look them up in this chapter, choose the Help button in the driver dialog box, or select the EPSON Stylus ReadMe icon in the EPSON program group.

Paper Settings

Paper Size

By default, the printer expects letter-size (8.5 × 11 inches) paper. To select a different paper or envelope size, choose from the following predefined sizes:

A4 210 × 297 mm	A6 Index card 105 × 148 mm
A4 (Centered) 210 × 297 mm	US B 11 × 17 in
A4 (Landscape) 297 × 210 mm	US C 17 × 22 in
Letter 8½ × 11 in	B5 176 × 250 mm
Letter (Centered) 8½ × 11 in	B4 250 × 353 mm
Letter (Landscape) 11 × 8½ in	A3 297 × 420 mm
Legal 8½ × 14 in	Super A3/B 329 × 483 mm
Legal (Centered) 8½ × 14 in	A2 420 × 594 mm
Envelope #10 4¼ × 9½ in	Long Paper 17 × 1 to 44 in
Envelope DL 110 × 220 mm	Fanfold 10 × 11 in
Envelope C5 162 × 229 mm	Fanfold 15 × 3 to 14 in
Statement 5½ × 8½ in	User Defined
Executive 7½ × 10 in	

Paper size options are determined by the Paper Source. The available paper size options will differ depending on the paper source you selected.

Note:

If you selected a country other than the United States in the Windows Control Panel International utility, the default paper size may be different. In addition, the measurement units displayed in the printable area example (beneath the Paper Size box) may be metric.

Use one of the Centered paper sizes only if you want the image to be centered on the page and your software program does not have a setting that lets you do this. Centered images have a slightly smaller printable area.

If you select User Defined, you can create a custom paper size in the pop-up box that appears beneath the Paper Size box. Change the current Paper Width and Paper Height settings to the values you want.

Portrait or Landscape

Select either the Portrait or Landscape button to specify the orientation of the image on the page. In portrait orientation, the top of the page is parallel with the short edge of the paper. In landscape orientation, the top of the page is parallel with the long edge of the paper.

Normally you should select the page orientation in your software application, not with the driver.

Paper Source

The default paper source is Auto Sheet Feeder. You may also select Manual Sheet Feed, Manual Sheet Feed (Banner), or Tractor Feeder.

If you are printing on paper longer than 23.4 inches (594 mm), choose Manual Feed Slot (Banner) and set the top and bottom margins to 0 (zero) or the minimum setting.

Copies

Allows you to specify the number of copies, whether to collate them (print them in sets), or whether you want to print the pages in reverse order (from last page to first).

Normally you should select these three settings from the Print dialog box in your software, not with the driver. Do not choose multiple copies in both the Print dialog box and the driver.

Note:

The Copies options may require additional system memory. If you see an error message or are unable to print using these options, try closing any unnecessary applications, reducing the size of your print job, turning off the Copies options, or increasing system memory.

Document Type

These settings tell the printer what type of document you are printing and whether to print in monochrome (black) or color.

Document Types

Select the document type that most closely matches the type of document you will be printing or let the printer driver select it automatically.

Automatic is the default setting and produces the best printed results. This setting lets the printer driver analyze the data on each page of a document and adjust the Ink, Color Matching, and Halftone settings automatically. The driver selects the ink and halftoning settings based on the data contained in each entire page, but selects the color matching setting based on each object on a page, such as each graphic or block of text.

You achieve the best results using the Automatic option. However, if you prefer to set the document type manually, follow these guidelines:

- ❑ Select Presentation when you are printing documents containing many graphic elements, such as charts in presentations.
- ❑ Select Photograph when you are printing photographs.
- ❑ Select Drawing when you are printing computer-generated illustrations.
- ❑ Select Text when you are printing documents containing only text.

Each of the manually set document types select predefined settings for Color Matching and Halftone, as listed in the following table.

Document Types setting	Color Matching setting	Halftone setting
Presentation	Vivid	Error diffusion
Photograph	Photo-realistic	Error diffusion
Drawing	Standard	Error diffusion
Text	Vivid	Error diffusion

If you change a predefined Color Matching or Halftone setting, the driver erases the currently selected document type and uses your new settings.

Ink

Specifies Color (CMYK) or Monochrome printing. CMYK refers to the printer's colored inks: cyan (blue-green), magenta, yellow, and black (K). These colors are combined to form any of 16 million colors. Select Color (CMYK) only if you have installed the optional Color Upgrade Kit and your document includes color. When you select Monochrome, the printer prints only black ink. If you are printing a color image and Monochrome is selected, the printer converts color data to grayscale values.

Note:

When Automatic is selected as the document type, the ink option is not available. To select an ink option, choose a document type other than Automatic.

Halftoning Settings

You achieve the best halftoning results when you let the printer driver's Document Type setting select the appropriate halftone method. If you selected the Automatic document type option, the driver selects the halftone setting appropriate to each page as it prints.

If you selected one of the other document types, the driver selects a predefined halftone setting. If you change a predefined halftone setting, the driver erases the currently selected Document Type option and uses the halftone setting you selected.

Note:

It is recommended that you set halftoning in the driver rather than setting the halftone or dithering options in your software application.

If you prefer to set the halftoning method manually, follow these guidelines:

- ❑ Use No halftoning to speed printing for text or monochrome line art. Do not use it when printing in color.
- ❑ Error Diffusion is best for photographic images. It creates color by randomly distributing the dots, making edges and colors softer. It takes longer to print, but it produces the best print quality for photographic images.
- ❑ Dithering A and Dithering B arrange dots in orderly patterns. The dithering method is relatively fast and is best suited for printing charts, graphs, and other images that require precise, solid areas of bright colors. Select Dithering A for images with limited detail and shading. Use Dithering B for images with significant detail but limited shading.

Note:

When Media Type is set to Special Coated Paper-720 dpi and Printing Mode is set to Super-720 dpi, Dithering A and Dithering B are not selectable.

Printing Mode/Options Settings

The Printing Mode/Options settings let you define the resolution, media type, and printing options for your document. The following table shows how these settings are related to each other and which options are available in the different modes.

Printing Mode setting	Media Type setting	Default Print Options *
Super - 720 dpi	Special coated paper for 720 dpi	MicroWeave On High Speed Off
	High quality glossy paper (color printing only)	MicroWeave On High Speed Off
	Plain paper (monochrome printing only)	MicroWeave On High Speed Off
Best - 360 dpi	Special coated paper for 360 dpi	MicroWeave On High Speed Off
	Special coated paper for 720 dpi (color printing only)	MicroWeave On High Speed Off
	Plain paper	MicroWeave Off High Speed On
	Transparency	MicroWeave On High Speed Off
Draft - 180 dpi	Plain paper	MicroWeave Off High Speed On

* You may not be able to change these options to a setting other than the default setting.

Be sure to select the Printing Mode before the Media Type.

Printing Mode

Specifies a resolution of 720 dpi, 360 dpi, or 180 dpi. Resolution is the amount of detail used to create an image. The higher the resolution, the sharper and finer the image.

For the best possible resolution, choose Super - 720 dpi resolution. When you select this resolution, MicroWeave is automatically turned on and High Speed mode is turned off. For best results at 720 dpi, load EPSON special coated paper for 720 dpi or high-quality glossy paper.

For most color printing, select Best - 360 dpi. This resolution produces good-quality, full-color images using less memory and in less time than 720 dpi. For best results at 360 dpi, use EPSON special coated paper for 360 dpi.

When speed is important and draft quality is good enough, use Draft - 180 dpi resolution.

Note:

Printing at lower resolutions also conserves ink.

Media Type

Sets up the printer for the type of paper you loaded. Depending on your Printing Mode setting, Media Type can be one of the following:

- Plain paper
- Special coated paper for 360 dpi
- Special coated paper for 720 dpi
- High-quality glossy paper
- Transparency

Note:

High-quality glossy paper is available only when Color (CMYK) ink and 720 dpi printer mode settings are selected.

You can use most plain paper with your printer and achieve good results. Coated papers give you better results because they reduce the amount of ink that is absorbed. However, if the coated paper does not absorb enough ink, the ink can smear.

To ensure the best results, EPSON provides special papers and transparencies that are formulated for the inks used in EPSON ink jet printers. These papers include the following:

- ❑ **EPSON special coated paper for 360 dpi.** Use this paper for best results when printing at 360 dpi.
- ❑ **EPSON special coated paper for 720 dpi.** Use this paper for best results when printing at 720 dpi.

- ❑ **EPSON high-quality glossy paper.** Use this paper with 720 dpi to produce camera-ready composites. When printing on glossy paper, use only EPSON high-quality glossy paper.
- ❑ **EPSON transparency film.** When printing transparencies, use only EPSON transparencies. For best results, use transparencies within six months of opening the package. Do not use 720 dpi when printing transparencies.

To order EPSON papers and transparencies, contact your dealer or call EPSON Accessories at (800) 873-7766 (U.S. only). In Canada, call (800) BUY-EPSON for sales locations.

Print Options

Allows you to turn the MicroWeave and High Speed mode settings on or off.

MicroWeave reduces the possibility of banding, the light horizontal lines that can mar an image. When you turn on MicroWeave, the printer produces superior output because graphics data is reordered and printed in fine increments. It slows the print speed but is recommended for printing color and grayscale images. Because it does not improve the print quality for text and line art, turn it off to print these kinds of images faster.

When you turn on High Speed mode, the printer uses bidirectional printing, reducing the time it takes to print an image. High Speed mode is a good choice for printing text and draft printouts of other types of documents, but for highest quality, turn off High Speed mode.

Note:

If the vertical lines appear misaligned when you print using High Speed mode, calibrate the printer as described in Chapter 3.

Image Settings

The Image Settings options allow you to adjust the brightness, contrast, and color matching features of your printed images. It is best to let the printer driver's Automatic Document Type setting select the appropriate image settings for you. If your original image is of poor quality, however, you can adjust the image settings to improve the printed output.

To help you decide on the best settings, a preview of a sample image appears in the Image Settings dialog box. As you change settings, the preview image is updated accordingly.

If you want to change the sample image to another bitmap (.BMP) image file, double-click on the preview image area. Then, in the dialog box that appears, select any other bitmap file you may have. The image must be a 1-, 4-, or 8-bit per pixel bitmap format. If the image size is different from the original, it may appear small or incomplete in the preview image area.

Brightness

Controls the lightness or darkness of an image. Increase brightness to lighten an image; decrease it to darken an image.

Contrast

Controls the degree of difference between the light and dark areas of an image. When you increase contrast, the light areas become very light and the dark areas become very dark. When you decrease contrast, the difference in intensity is more subtle, making the whites and bright colors more muted and the blacks appear very dark gray.

Color Matching

Controls the printer's color correction features based on the selected Document Type. Color Matching is automatically set to the most appropriate setting when you select a particular document type or use the Automatic setting. It is best to leave Color Matching set to the driver's selection.

The settings perform the following functions:

- Off turns off color matching so you can use your application program's color correction features.
- Vivid intensifies the colors while lightening the midtones and highlights in images such as presentation graphics and charts.
- Photo-realistic increases the contrast in images such as color photographs.
- Standard adjusts colors so they closely match the original screen colors in images such as illustrations.

Note:

Color Matching *is not available when Monochrome is selected in the document type menu.*

Using the Printer Driver Utilities

This chapter explains how to manage print jobs that you send to the printer using the EPSON Spool Manager. It also tells you how to calibrate the printer using the EPSON Printer Calibration Utility if vertical lines in your printed output become misaligned.

When you install the printer driver, the EPSON Spool Manager and Printer Calibration Utility are automatically copied to your hard disk drive.

Managing Print Jobs With Spool Manager

When you print a document, the computer uses the EPSON Spool Manager to send data to the printer. This allows you to continue working in your software program while printing.

When you send a print job to the printer, the Despooler status box appears in the bottom right corner of your screen and an icon for the EPSON Spool Manager appears in the lower left corner. The Spool Manager icon is also included in the EPSON group so you can manage print queues or perform other operations when you are not sending a print job.

Note:

You may not see the EPSON Spool Manager icon if the Windows Program Manager window or an application window is maximized. Reduce the window size to reveal the icon.

The Despooler status box, which is similar to the one shown below, allows you to monitor the progress of the print job and cancel (■), pause (||), or restart (◀◀) the print job.



If you do not want the Despooler status box to appear each time you print, double-click the EPSON Spool Manager icon to open it. Then open the View menu and select Show Despool Popup to turn it off; the check mark next to the option disappears.

Other options in the EPSON Spool Manager allow you to hold and cancel print jobs, choose what information to display in the Spool Manager window, and manage print queues and print jobs on a network. Click Help for more information.

Note:

If you get error messages while trying to print, the problem may be caused by conflicts with other temporary files or directories. You may need to change the default directory for the EPSON Spool Manager. See "Printing Problems" in Chapter 4 of the Reference Guide for more information.

Calibrating the Printer

Your printer has been calibrated at the factory so that vertical lines in your text and graphics are properly aligned. If you notice misaligned images in printouts, however, you can calibrate the printer with the EPSON Printer Calibration Utility. You may need to do this after moving the printer to a new location, for example.

Note:

If you cannot use the calibration utility program, you can use the printer-adjustment mode to calibrate your printer. For details, see “Calibrating the Printer When Printing From DOS” in Chapter 3 of your Reference Guide.

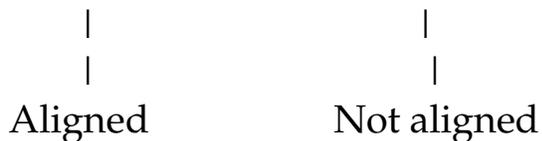
Follow these steps:

1. Double-click the EPSON Printer Calibration icon in the EPSON group.
2. Click OK at the next screen to start the calibration program.
3. Make sure EPSON Stylus 1500 is selected as the printer. Select which print head (black or color) to calibrate. Then click Next.
4. Select the port the Stylus 1500 is connected to. Then click Next.
5. Make sure the printer is on and is loaded with several sheets of letter-size paper; then click Next. Wait while the printer prints the Current Alignment Sheet.
6. Select the patterns that are misaligned; then click Next.

Note:

Only patterns 2, 3, and 4 are selectable. Do not select pattern 1.

For each pattern you selected, the printer prints a Test Alignment Sheet of multiple vertical lines. In most samples, the vertical lines are slightly misaligned. Look for the sample that is most closely aligned.



7. Enter the number of the sample that is aligned or select Not-aligned if none of the samples are aligned. Then click Next.
8. If you selected Not-aligned in step 7, select the sample that is most closely aligned.
9. Repeat steps 6 through 8 until all the patterns have been aligned. When the calibration is complete, click Finish to exit the program.

If you notice later that the vertical alignment of your printed pages is off, repeat the calibration procedure.

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