*   The paper guide support frame is beneath the continuous paper support.
** The center support and sprockets are parts of the tractor.

User Replaceable Parts

FX-880

User Replaceable Part	Parts Price List Name	Part Number
Front cover	Cover, front	1036539
Knob	Knob	1036511
Logo plate	Logo plate	1037486
Optional interface cover	Upper connector cover	1002045
Paper guide	Sheet guide assembly, rear	1036541
Paper guide support frame	Support frame, sheet guide	1036506
Paper tension unit	N/A	N/A
Paper thickness lever cap	Cap cover	1025333
Printer cover	Cover assembly, printer	1036540
Ribbon cartridge	Ribbon cartridge	#8750
Tractor	Tractor assembly	1036538

FX-1180

User Replaceable Part	Parts Price List Name	Part Number
Front cover	Cover, front	1038524
Knob	Knob	1039337
Logo plate	Logo plate	1039511
Optional interface cover	Upper connector cover	1037223
Paper guide	Sheet guide assembly, rear	1038525
Paper guide support frame	Support frame, sheet guide	1039332
Paper tension unit	N/A	N/A
Paper thickness lever cap	Cap cover	1039356
Printer cover	Cover assembly, printer	1038533
Ribbon cartridge	Ribbon cartridge	#8755
Tractor	Tractor assembly	1038519

Options

Paper Handling Options

High-capacity cut-sheet feeder (C806381 for FX-880, C806401 for FX-1180)
Feeds up to 150 sheets of paper or 25 plain bond envelopes into the printer without reloading. You can load single-sheet paper, single-sheet multi-part forms, or envelopes.

Single-bin cut-sheet feeder (C806371 for FX-880, C806391 for FX-1180)
Feeds up to 50 sheets of paper into the printer without reloading. You can load only ordinary single sheets in this feeder.

Additional tractor unit (C800201 for FX-880, C800211 for FX-1180)
Use the additional tractor in the pull position along with your standard tractor installed in the front or rear push position to improve paper handling and reduce the chance of paper jams. This setup is especially useful with continuous multi-part forms.

Roll paper holder (#8310)
Allows you to use your printer with 8.5-inch roll paper like that used with telex machines.

Front sheet guide (C814001 for FX-880, C814011 for FX-1180)
Allows you to load single sheets and carbonless single-sheet multi-part forms of up to 6 parts.

Front paper guide (C814021 for FX-880, C814031 for FX-1180)
Allows you to load single sheets and carbonless single-sheet multi-part forms of up to 6 parts without removing the tractor from the front push position.

Optional Interface Cards

You can install one of the following EPSON interface cards in your printer.

Card Type	Model Number
Serial interface	C823051
32KB intelligent serial interface	C823071
Coax interface	C823141
Twinax interface	C823151
Type B bidirectional parallel	C823452
Multi-protocol Ethernet print server	C823572

Printer Specifications

Mechanical

Printing method: 9-pin impact dot matrix

Printing speed:
High speed draft: 410 cps at 10 cpi (max. 455 cps at 12 cpi)

Draft: 310 cps at 10 cpi

Near letter quality: 77 cps at 10 cpi

Printing direction:
Bidirectional logic seeking for text and graphics printing. Unidirectional text or graphics printing can be selected using software commands.

Line spacing:
1/6-inch or programmable in 1/216-inch increments

Printable columns:
FX-880:   80 columns (at 10 cpi)
FX-1180: 136 columns (at 10 cpi)

Resolution:
Maximum 240×144 dpi (near letter quality)

Interfaces:
One standard bidirectional, 8-bit, parallel interface with IEEE 1284 nibble mode support and one optional interface slot.

Paper feed methods:
Friction (front, rear)

Push tractor (front, rear)

Pull tractor (front, bottom, rear)

Push and pull tractor (additional tractor is required)

Cut-sheet feeder (optional)

Roll paper holder (optional)

Paper feed speed: Continuous: 5 inches/second

Intermittent: 62 ms/line at 1/6-inch line spacing

Paper capacity:
Single-bin cut-sheet feeder holds up to 50 sheets of 22 lb (82 g/m²) paper

Note:
The total thickness of the paper stack can be up to 0.20 inch (5 mm).

High-capacity cut-sheet feeder:
up to 150 sheets of 22 lb (82 g/m²) paper
up to 25 plain or bond envelopes
up to 30 airmail envelopes

Note:
The total thickness of the paper stack can be up to 0.59 inch (15 mm).

Buffer:
32KB or 0KB (selectable in the default-setting mode or the EPSON Remote! utility)

Built-in fonts:
Bitmap fonts:

EPSON Draft   10, 12, 15 cpi
EPSON Roman   10, 12, 15 cpi, proportional
EPSON Sans Serif 10, 12, 15 cpi, proportional

Barcode fonts:

EAN-13, EAN-8, Interleaved 2 of 5, UPC-A, UPC-E, Code 39, Code 128, POSTNET

Character tables: One Italic and 10 graphical character tables. (Nineteen graphical character tables are available in some countries.)

Character sets: 13 international character sets

| Reliability: | Total print volume: | 6.5 million lines (except print head) |
| | Print head life: | approx. 200 million characters (draft 10 cpi, 14 dots/character) |

Dimensions and weight:

		FX-880	FX-1180
Height	(inches) (mm)	6.1 154	6.1 154
Width	(inches) (mm)	16.3 415	23.2 590
Depth	(inches) (mm)	13.8 350	13.8 350
Weight (approx.)	(lb) (kg)	16.8 7.6	21.2 9.6

| Ribbon: | Black ribbon cartridge (#8750 for FX-880, #8755 for FX-1180) |
| | Ribbon life of approx. 3 million characters (draft 10 cpi, 14 dots/character) |

Electrical

	120 V Model	220 to 240 V Model
Input voltage range	103.5 to 132 V	198 to 264 V
Rated frequency range	50 to 60 Hz	
Input frequency range	49.5 to 60.5 Hz	
Rated current	0.7 A (maximum 1.6 A)	0.4 A (maximum 0.9 A)
Power consumption	Approx. 36 W (ISO/IEC 10561 letter pattern)	

Note:
Check the label on the back of the printer for your printer's voltage.

Environmental

	Temperature	Humidity (without condensation)
Operation	41° to 95° F (5° to 35° C)	10% to 80% RH
Operation (recycled paper, envelopes, labels, or roll paper)	59° to 77° F (15° to 25° C)	30% to 60% RH
Storage	−22° to 140° F (−30° to 60° C)	0% to 85% RH

Paper

Note:
Use recycled paper, labels, envelopes, and roll paper only under normal temperature and humidity conditions, as follows:

Temperature	59° to 77° F (15° to 25° C)
Humidity	30% to 60% RH

Do not load paper that is curled or has been folded.
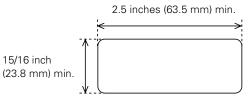
Continuous paper (ordinary and multi-part):

		Minimum	Maximum	
Width	(inches) (mm)	4 101.6	FX-880: 10 254	FX-1180: 16 406.4
Length (one page)	(inches) (mm)	4 101.6	22 558.8	
Copies		1 original + 5 copies		
Total thickness	(inches) (mm)	0.0025 0.065	0.018 0.46	
Weight (ordinary page)	(lb) (g/m²)	14 52	22 82	
Weight (one sheet of multi-part)	(lb) (g/m²)	12 40	15 58	
Quality		Plain paper, recycled paper, and carbonless multi-part forms with spot gluing or paper stapling on both sides		

Continuous labels (front and bottom entry only):

Note:
Use only labels mounted on continuous backing sheets.

		Minimum	Maximum	
Label size		See figure below		
Backing sheet width	(inches) (mm)	4 101.6	FX-880: 10 254	FX-1180: 16 406.4
Backing sheet length	(inches) (mm)	4 101.6	22 558.8	
Backing sheet thickness	(inches) (mm)	0.0028 0.07	0.0035 0.09	
Total thickness	(inches) (mm)	0.0063 0.16	0.0075 0.19	
Label weight	(lb) (g/m²)		17 68	
Quality		Plain paper		

2.5 inches (63.5 mm) min.

15/16 inch (23.8 mm) min.

corner radius = 0.1 inch (2.5 mm) min.

Single sheets:

	Front Entry		Rear Entry	
	Minimum	**Maximum**	**Minimum**	**Maximum**
Width	5.8 in. 148 mm	FX-880: FX-1180: 10.1 in. 16.5 in. 257mm 420mm	5.8 in. 148 mm	FX-880: FX-1180: 10.1 in. 16.5 in. 257mm 420mm
Length	7.2 in. 182 mm	14.3 in. 364 mm	3.6 in. 92 mm	14.3 in. 364 mm
Thickness	0.0025 in. 0.065 mm	0.0055 in. 0.14 mm	0.0025 in. 0.065 mm	0.0055 in. 0.14 mm
Weight	14 lb 52 g/m^2	24 lb 90 g/m^2	14 lb 52 g/m^2	24 lb 90 g/m^2
Quality	Plain paper, bond paper, and recycled paper			

Single-sheet multi-part forms (for the optional front sheet or front paper guide only):

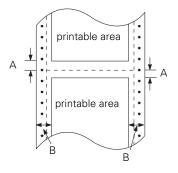|		**Minimum**	**Maximum**	
Width	(inches) (mm)	5.8 148	FX-880: 10.1 257	FX-1180: 16.5 420
Length	(inches) (mm)	7.2 182	14.3 364	
Copies		1 original + 5 copies		
Total thickness	(inches) (mm)	0.0047 0.12	0.018 0.46	
Weight (one sheet of multi-part)	(lb) (g/m^2)	12 40	15 58	
Quality		Carbonless multi-part forms with a line of glue at the top or the side of the form		

Envelopes (rear entry only):

			Minimum	**Maximum**
Envelope size (No. 6)	Width	(inches) (mm)	6.5 165	
	Length	(inches) (mm)	3.6 92	
Envelope size (No. 10)	Width	(inches) (mm)	9.5 241	
	Length	(inches) (mm)	4.1 105	
Total thickness		(inches) (mm)	0.0063 0.16	0.020 0.52
			Differences in thickness within the printable area must be less than 0.0098 inch (0.25 mm).	
Weight		(lb) (g/m^2)	12 45	24 90
Quality			Bond envelopes, plain envelopes, and airmail envelopes without glue on the flap	

Roll paper (rear entry only, and requires optional roll paper holder):

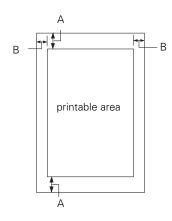|		**Minimum**	**Maximum**
Width	(inches) (mm)	8.5 216	
Length	(inches) (mm)	—	
Thickness	(inches) (mm)	0.0028 0.07	0.0035 0.09
Weight	(lb) (g/m^2)	14 52	22 82
Quality		Plain paper	

Printable Area

Continuous paper:

A The minimum top and bottom margins (above and below the perforation) are 0.17 inch (4.2 mm).

B The minimum left and right margins are 0.51 inch (13 mm).

For the FX-880, the maximum printable width is 8 inches (203.2 mm). For paper wider than 9 inches (229.2 mm), the side margins increase to match the width of the paper.

For the FX-1180, the maximum printable width is 13.6 inches (345.4 mm). For paper wider than 14.6 inches (371.4 mm), the side margins increase to match the width of the paper.
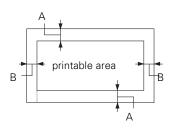
Single sheets:

A The minimum top and bottom margins are 0.17 inch (4.2 mm).
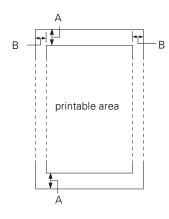
B The minimum left and right margins are 0.12 inch (3 mm).

For the FX-880, the maximum printable width is 8 inches (203.2 mm). For paper wider than 8.2 inches (209.2 mm), the side margins increase to match the width of the paper.

For the FX-1180, the maximum printable width is 13.6 inches (345.4 mm). For paper wider than 13.8 inches (351.4 mm), the side margins increase to match the width of the paper.

Envelopes:

A The minimum top and bottom margins are 0.17 inch (4.2 mm).

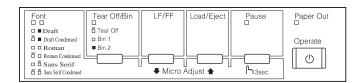B The minimum left and right margins are 0.12 inch (3 mm).

Roll paper:

A The minimum top and bottom margins are 0.17 inch (4.2 mm).

B The minimum left and right margins are 0.12 inch (3 mm). The maximum printable width is 8 inches (203.2 mm) for the FX-880 and 13.6 inches (345.4 mm) for the FX-1180.

Safety Approvals

120 V model:

Safety standards	UL1950 CSA C22.2 No. 950
EMI	FCC part 15 subpart B class B CSA C108.8 class B

220 to 240 V model:

Safety standards	EN 60950 (VDE, NEMKO)
EMI	EN 55022 (CISPR pub. 22) class B AS/NZS 3548 class B

Acoustic noise: Approx. 55 dB (A) (ISO 7779 pattern)

Control Panel Buttons and Lights

Font Lights

Indicate which font is selected. See Chapter 5 of the *User's Guide* for more information.

Tear Off/Bin Button

❑ Feeds continuous paper forward to the tear-off position.

❑ Feeds continuous paper backward from the tear-off position to the top-of-form position.

❑ Selects a cut-sheet feeder bin when the cut-sheet feeder is installed.

❑ Selects a font when the printer is in the font selection mode.

Tear Off/Bin Light

❑ Flashes when continuous paper is in the tear-off position.

❑ On when bin 1 of the optional cut-sheet feeder is selected.

❑ Off when bin 2 of the optional cut-sheet feeder is selected.

LF/FF Button

❑ Feeds paper line by line.

❑ Ejects a single sheet or advances continuous paper to the next top-of-form position when held down.

Load/Eject Button

❑ Loads a single sheet of paper.

❑ Ejects a single sheet of paper if a sheet is loaded.

❑ Loads continuous paper from the standby position.

❑ Feeds continuous paper backward to the standby position.

Micro Adjust Buttons

Let you adjust the top-of-form and tear-off positions using the down or up arrow buttons.

Pause Button

❑ Stops printing temporarily, and resumes printing when pressed again.

❑ When held down for three seconds, enters the micro adjust mode. When pressed again, exits the micro adjust mode.

Pause Light

❑ On when the printer is paused.

❑ Flashes when the printer is in the micro adjust mode.

Paper Out Light

❑ On when no paper is loaded or paper is not loaded correctly in the selected paper source.

❑ Flashes when paper has not been fully ejected or a paper jam has occurred.

Operate Button

Turns the printer on and off. The printer is off when the top of this button is even with the button protectors.

Error Indicators

Light Status	Beep Pattern	
☐ = on	●●●	short series of beeps (three times)
■ = off	●●●●●	long series of beeps (five times)
☐ = flashing		

If a printer error occurs, use the control panel lights to determine the problem and solution.

Pause	Paper Out	Beep Pattern
☐	☐	●●●

❑ *No paper is loaded in the selected paper source.*

❑ *The paper is not loaded correctly.*

Load paper in the selected paper source, remove and reload your paper, or select a different paper source with the paper release lever. The Paper Out light goes off. Press the Pause button to turn off the Pause light.

Pause	Beep Pattern
☐	●●●●●

The paper release lever is set to the wrong position.

Set the paper release lever to the position for the paper source you want to use. If paper from another paper source is currently in the paper path, press the Load/Eject button to eject the paper; then move the paper release lever to the desired position.

Pause	Paper Out	Beep Pattern
☐	☐	●●●

❑ *Continuous paper does not feed to the standby position.*

Tear off the printed page at the perforation; then press the Load/Eject button. The paper feeds to the standby position.

❑ *A single sheet of paper is not fully ejected.*

Press the Load/Eject button to eject the sheet.

❑ *Paper is jammed in the printer.*

Clear the paper jam as described on page 13.

Pause	Paper Out
☐	☐

The print head is overheated.

Wait a few minutes; the printer resumes printing automatically once the print head cools.

Font	Tear Off/Bin	Pause	Paper Out
☐	☐	☐	☐

An unknown printer error has occurred.

Turn off the printer and leave it off for several minutes; then turn it on again. If the error recurs, contact your dealer.
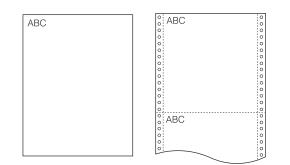
Note:
The printer beeps once if you press a control panel button when the corresponding function is not available.

Status Monitor

The EPSON Status Monitor 2 utility program comes with the printer and is for use only with Windows® 95. It monitors the status of the printer, indicates when errors occur, and provides troubleshooting tips.

Paper Positions

Top-of-Form Position

The letters ABC above are printed at the top-of-form position.

The top-of-form position is the position where the printer starts printing on a page of single-sheet or continuous paper.

Note:
See page 4 for information on the printable area of your paper.

Tear-off Position

Your continuous paper is in the tear-off position when the perforation is aligned with the printer's tear-off edge, so you can easily tear off your printed document.

Standby Position

Your continuous paper is in the standby position when it is attached to the tractor but not loaded in the printer.

Available Paper Paths

Printing on Continuous Paper

You can choose from three tractor positions (front push, rear push, and pull) and three paper entry slots (front, rear, and bottom) for continuous paper printing. The tractor is installed in the rear push position when the printer is shipped.

If you often need to tear off sheets of continuous paper (for example, if you print purchase orders or sales slips), it is best to use the front or rear push tractor. This allows you to use the printer's tear-off edge to easily tear off printed sheets of continuous paper at the perforation. Also, when continuous paper is loaded on a push tractor, you can load single sheets of paper from the paper guide without removing the continuous paper.

If you often print on thick or heavy continuous paper, such as multi-part forms or continuous paper with labels, use the tractor in the pull position. The pull tractor provides the best paper jam prevention, and allows you to load continuous paper from the front, rear, or bottom of the printer. However, you cannot use the tear-off feature with the pull tractor.

Note:
To use a pull tractor, you can install the tractor that comes with the printer in the pull position, or you can purchase the optional additional tractor (C800201 for FX-880, C800211 for FX-1180) and install it in the pull position.

If you use the push tractor with the optional tractor in the pull position, you can create a push/pull tractor combination. This improves continuous paper feeding and is recommended for printing on continuous pre-printed forms, multi-part forms, or labels, and for printing high-quality graphics.

The table below summarizes the paper paths available for printing on continuous paper.

Paper Path	Description
Front push tractor Front paper slot	The paper path from the front slot is almost straight, which reduces the chance of paper jams. Use the front slot when you are printing on thick paper such as multi-part forms.
Rear push tractor Rear paper slot	Do not load thick paper, such as multi-part forms with 5 or 6 parts (1 original plus 4 or 5 copies) in the rear slot. The paper path from the rear slot is curved, and thick continuous paper performs best with a straight paper path.
Pull tractor Front paper slot	The paper path from the front slot is almost straight, which reduces the chance of paper jams. Use the front slot when you are printing on thick paper such as multi-part forms or continuous paper with labels.
Pull tractor Bottom paper slot	Because the bottom slot has the straightest paper path, it is ideal for printing on thick paper, such as multi-part forms or continuous paper with labels. *Note: When loading paper in the bottom slot, be sure to use a printer stand with an opening large enough so that the paper can feed through it without obstruction.*

Paper Path	Description
Pull tractor Rear paper slot	You can load ordinary continuous paper in the rear slot. However, loading thick paper in the rear slot is not recommended because the paper path from the rear slot is curved and a paper jam may occur.
Rear push tractor and pull tractor Rear paper slot	To use the rear push tractor with the pull tractor, you need to install the optional additional tractor. The rear slot is not recommended for thick paper.
Front push tractor and pull tractor Front paper slot	To use the front push tractor with the pull tractor, you need to install the optional additional tractor.

Caution:
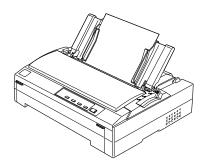Do not load continuous paper with labels in the rear slot; the labels may come off the backing sheet inside the printer and cause a jam.

Note:
If you leave the standard tractor in the rear push position and install the optional tractor in the front push position, you can load one type of continuous paper onto the front push tractor and another type onto the rear push tractor. You can easily switch between the two paper types using the paper release lever. Before moving the paper release lever, always press the Load/Eject button to feed the paper in the paper path backward to the standby position.
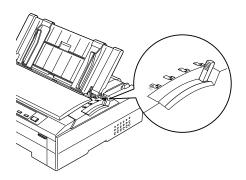
Printing on Single Sheets

You can load ordinary single sheets (not single-sheet multi-part forms) and envelopes one at a time from the top of the printer, using the paper guide that comes with the printer.

You can also load single-sheet paper using an optional cut-sheet feeder, front sheet guide, or front paper guide.

Paper Release Lever Positions

Use the paper release lever to select which paper source you want the printer to load paper from. The table below shows the corresponding paper path(s) for each paper release lever position.

Single-sheet position

For loading single sheets from the top (from the paper guide or an optional cut-sheet feeder) or from the optional sheet or paper guide in the front.

Front push tractor position

For loading continuous paper from the tractor installed in the front push position. Also set the lever to this position when using the pull and front push tractors in combination.
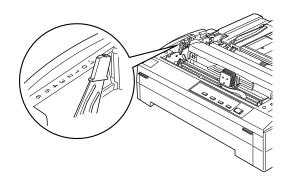
Rear push tractor position

For loading continuous paper from the tractor installed in the rear push position. Also set the lever to this position when using the pull and rear push tractors in combination.

Pull tractor position

For loading continuous paper from the tractor installed on top of the printer in the pull position. When the tractor is in the pull position, you can load paper in the printer from the front, rear, or bottom slot.
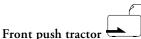
Paper Thickness Lever Positions

The paper thickness lever is located under the printer cover.

You need to set the paper thickness lever for the type of paper you are using, as shown in the table below.
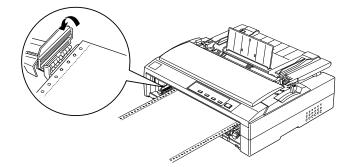
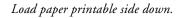| Paper Type	Lever Position
Ordinary paper (single sheets or continuous paper)	0
Carbonless multi-part forms with:	
2 parts (original + 1 copy)	1
3 parts (original + 2 copies)	2
4 parts (original + 3 copies)	3
5 parts (original + 4 copies)	4
6 parts (original + 5 copies)	5
Thin paper	−1 or 0
Continuous paper with labels	2
Envelopes	2 to 6

Paper Handling
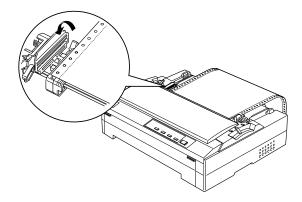
Loading Continuous Paper Onto a Push Tractor

Front push tractor

Load paper printable side up.

Rear push tractor

Load paper printable side down.

1. If you are using the front push tractor, remove the front cover.

   If you are using the rear push tractor, remove the paper guide.

2. Open both sprocket covers.

3. Fit the first four holes of the paper over the sprocket pins (as shown above). Then close the sprocket covers.

   Note:
   Make sure the left and right sprockets are positioned properly for your paper's width. If they are too far apart or there is any slack in the paper, you need to move the sprockets.

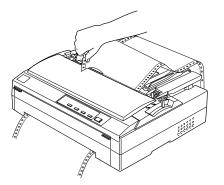4. If you are using the front push tractor, reattach the front cover.

   If you are using the rear push tractor, reattach the paper guide.

5. Make sure the paper release lever is in the correct position.

6. Make sure that the paper guide is lying flat on the printer and the continuous paper support is in the upright position.

Removing the Printed Document from a Push Tractor

1. Make sure the Tear Off/Bin light is flashing. (You may need to press the Tear Off/Bin button.) When the Tear Off/Bin light is flashing, your paper is in the tear-off position.

2. Tear off the printed document at the perforation using the tear-off edge of the printer cover. (Pull it toward you for a clean cut.)

3. Press the Load/Eject button to feed the continuous paper backward out of the printer and into the standby position.
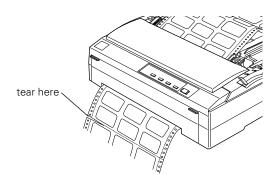

Caution:
Always tear off your printed document before you press the Load/Eject button. Reverse feeding several pages at a time may cause a paper jam.

Removing Continuous Paper With Labels

1. Tear off the fresh supply of continuous labels at the perforation nearest the paper entry slot.

tear here

2. Hold down the LF/FF button to eject the remaining labels from the printer.

Caution:
Never press the Load/Eject or Tear Off/Bin button when printing on labels. When fed backward, labels can easily come off the backing sheet and cause a jam.

Switching to Printing on Single Sheets

You can easily switch from printing on continuous paper with a push tractor to printing on single sheets without having to remove or reload paper. Follow the steps below.

Note:
❑ If continuous paper with labels is loaded in the printer, remove it before switching to single-sheet printing.

❑ If the tractor is in the pull position, remove any continuous paper from it before switching to single-sheet printing.

1. If any printed pages of continuous paper remain in the printer, press the Tear Off/Bin button to advance them to the tear-off position, and then tear them off.

Caution:
Tear off your printed document before you press the Load/Eject button in the next step. Reverse feeding several pages at a time may cause a paper jam.

Never use the knob to eject paper while the printer is on; this may damage the printer or cause it to lose the tear-off or top-of-form position.

2. Press the Load/Eject button to feed the continuous paper backward to the standby position.

3. Lower the continuous paper support on the paper guide until it clicks into place, then move the paper guide to the upright position.

4. Load single sheets in the printer.

5. Set the paper release lever to the single-sheet position.

Switching to Printing on Continuous Paper

To switch from printing on single sheets to printing on continuous paper with the front or rear push tractor, follow the steps below.

Note:
To switch from printing with the optional front sheet guide to printing with the front push tractor, you need to remove the front sheet guide.

1. If a single sheet remains in the printer, press the Load/Eject button to eject it.

Caution:
Never use the knob to eject paper while the printer is on; this may damage the printer or cause it to lose the tear-off or top-of-form position.

2. Make sure that the tractor is installed in the front or rear push position and that continuous paper is loaded on the tractor.

3. Set the paper release lever to the appropriate position.

Adjusting the Top-of-Form Position

If your printing begins too high or low on the page, you can use the micro adjust feature to adjust the top-of-form position as described below.
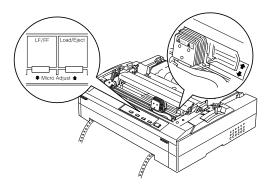
 Caution:
Never use the knob to adjust the top-of-form position; this may damage the printer or cause it to lose the top-of-form position.

Note:

❏ Your top-of-form position setting remains in effect until you change it, even if you turn off the printer.

❏ The top margin setting made in some application software overrides the top-of-form position setting you make with the micro adjust feature. If necessary, adjust the top-of-form position using your software.

1. Make sure the printer is turned on and paper is loaded.

2. If you are using a push tractor, press the Load/Eject button to advance the paper to the current top-of-form position. If necessary, lift up the printer cover so you can see the paper position.

3. Hold down the Pause button for about three seconds. The Pause light starts flashing and the printer enters the micro adjust mode.

4. Press the Load/Eject ✦ and LF/FF ✦ buttons to move the top-of-form position up or down on the page.

Note:

❏ The printer has a minimum and a maximum top-of-form position. If you try to adjust it beyond these limits, the printer beeps and stops moving the paper.

❏ When the paper reaches the default top-of-form position, the printer also beeps and stops moving the paper briefly. You can use the default setting as a reference point when adjusting the top-of-form position.

5. Press the Pause button to exit micro adjust mode.

Advancing the Paper to the Tear-off Edge

If you use the front or rear push tractor, you can use the tear-off feature to advance your continuous paper to the printer's tear-off edge when you finish printing. You can then easily tear off the printed document.

As described below, you can use the tear-off feature in two ways: manually by pressing the printer's Tear Off/Bin button, or automatically by turning on the auto tear-off mode. The Tear Off/Bin light flashes when the paper is in the tear-off position.

 Caution:
Never use the tear-off feature to feed continuous paper with labels backward; they may come off the backing sheet and jam the printer.

Never reverse feed continuous paper loaded on the pull tractor using the Tear Off/Bin button; the paper may come off the pull tractor and jam the printer.

Using the Tear Off/Bin Button

After the printer finishes printing your document, press the Tear Off/Bin button to advance the paper to the tear-off edge.

Note:
If the Tear Off/Bin light is flashing, the paper is in the tear-off position. If you press the Tear Off/Bin button, the printer feeds your paper to the next top-of-form position.

Advancing Paper to the Tear-off Position Automatically

To automatically advance your printed documents to the tear-off position, you need to turn on the auto tear-off mode and select the appropriate page length for continuous paper in the default-setting mode. For instructions, see "Using the Default-Setting Mode" on page 13.

When auto tear-off is on, the printer automatically advances the paper to the tear-off position whenever it receives a full page of data or a form feed command followed by no more data.

Adjusting the Tear-off Position

If your paper's perforation is not aligned with the tear-off edge, you can use the micro adjust feature to move the perforation to the tear-off position. Follow the steps below.
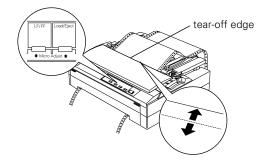
 Caution:
Never use the knob to adjust the tear-off position; this may damage the printer or cause it to lose the tear-off position.

Note:
Your tear-off position setting remains in effect until you change it, even if you turn off the printer.

1. Make sure the **Tear Off/Bin** light is flashing (the paper is at the current tear-off position). You may need to press the **Tear Off/Bin** button.

2. Hold down the **Pause** button for about three seconds. The **Pause** light begins flashing and the printer enters the micro adjust mode.

3. Press the **Load/Eject** ⬆ and **LF/FF** ⬇ buttons to feed the paper backward or forward until the paper perforation is aligned with the tear-off edge of the printer cover.

Note:
The printer has a minimum and a maximum tear-off position. If you try to adjust the tear-off position beyond these limits, the printer beeps and stops moving the paper.

4. Press the **Pause** button to turn off micro adjust mode. Then tear off the printed pages.

When you resume printing, the printer automatically feeds the paper back to the top-of-form position and begins printing.

Replacing the Ribbon Cartridge

Warning:
You need to move the print head by hand to install or replace the ribbon cartridge. If you just used the printer, the print head may be hot; let it cool before you replace the ribbon cartridge.
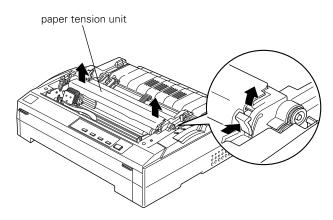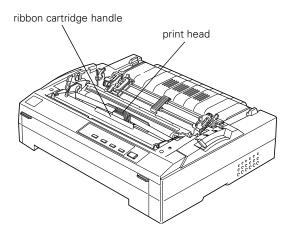
Caution:
Make sure the printer is off and unplugged from the electrical outlet. Moving the print head while the printer is on may damage the printer.

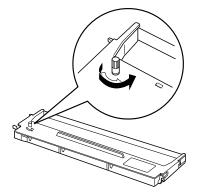1. Remove the printer cover.

2. Press up the tabs on the paper tension unit, then lift the front of the unit and pull it up and out of the printer.
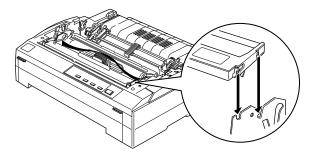

3. Make sure that the print head is not hot; then slide the print head to the middle of the printer by hand.
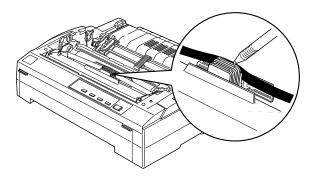

4. Grasp the used ribbon cartridge by its handle and pull it up and out of the printer.

5. Turn the ribbon-tightening knob of the new ribbon cartridge in the direction of the arrow to remove any slack in the ribbon.
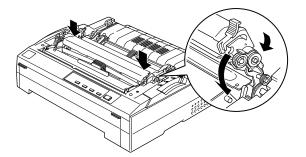
6. Hold the ribbon cartridge by its handle and push it firmly down into position; then press down both ends of the cartridge to fit the plastic hooks into the slots.

7. Use a pointed object, such as a ball point pen, to guide the ribbon between the print head and ribbon guide while you turn the ribbon-tightening knob to help feed the ribbon into place.
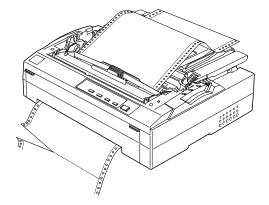

8. Slide the print head from side to side to make sure it moves smoothly.

9. Install the paper tension unit by placing it on the printer's mounting pegs and lowering it into place. Press down both ends of the unit until it clicks into place.

10. Replace the printer cover.

Clearing Paper Jams

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

2. Remove the printer cover.

3. If continuous paper is jammed in the printer, tear off the fresh supply at the perforation nearest the paper entry slot.

4. Turn the knob on the left side of the printer away from you to eject the paper in the printer.

> Caution:
> Always turn off the printer before you use the knob; otherwise the printer may be damaged or the top-of-form or tear-off position may be lost.

5. Remove any remaining pieces of paper. If the paper is stuck where the printer ejects it, gently pull the paper out of the printer.

6. Replace the printer cover and press the Operate button to turn on the printer. Make sure the Paper Out light is not flashing and the Pause light is off.

Using the Default-Setting Mode

The default settings control many printer functions. While you can often set these functions through your software or printer driver, you may sometimes need to change a default setting from the printer's control panel using the default-setting mode.

The following tables summarize the default-setting mode settings and options. The factory settings are bold.

Default-Setting Mode 1

Setting	Options
Skip over perforation	**Off**, On
Auto tear-off	**Off**, On
Auto line feed	**Off**, On
Print direction	**Bi-D**, Uni-D
Software	**ESC/P**, IBM 2380 Plus for FX-880, IBM2381 Plus for FX-1180
I/F (interface) mode	**Auto**, Parallel, Optional
Auto I/F (interface) wait time	**10 seconds**, 30 seconds
0 slash	**0**, Ø
High speed draft	Off, **On (10 cpi)**, On (12 cpi)
Input buffer	Off, **On**
Buzzer	Off, **On**
Auto CR (carriage return)*	**Off**, On
IBM character table*	Table 2, **Table1**

* These settings are available only in IBM 2380/2381 Plus emulation mode (IBM 2380 Plus for FX-880, IBM 2381 Plus for FX-1180).

Default-Setting Mode 2

Setting	Options
Page length for front tractor	Length in inches: 3, 3.5, 4, 5.5, 6, 7, 8, 8.5, **11**, 70/6, 12, 14, 17
Page length for rear tractor	Length in inches: 3, 3.5, 4, 5.5, 6, 7, 8, 8.5, **11**, 70/6, 12, 14, 17
Character table	Standard model: **Italic**, PC 437, PC 850, PC 860, PC 863, PC 865, PC 861, BRASCII, Abicomp, Roman 8, ISO Latin 1 All other models: Italic, PC 437, PC 850, PC 437 Greek, PC 853, PC 855, PC 852, PC 857, PC 866, PC 869, MAZOWIA, code MJK, ISO 8859-7, Bulgaria, PC 774, Estonia, PC 866 LAT., ISO 8859-2, PC 866 UKR
International character set for Italic table*	**Italic U.S.A.**, Italic France, Italic Germany, Italic U.K., Italic Denmark 1, Italic Sweden, Italic Italy, Italic Spain 1

* The options available for this setting vary depending on the country.

Changing Default Settings

Follow the steps below to enter the default-setting mode and change the printer's default settings.

Note:

❏ To print the language selection and default-setting mode instructions, you need three sheets of letter- or A4-size paper or three pages of continuous paper that is at least 11 inches (279 mm) long and 8.3 inches (210 mm) wide.

❏ If you use single sheets, you need to load a new sheet of paper each time the printer ejects a printed sheet from the paper guide.

1. Make sure paper is loaded and the printer is turned off.

Caution:
Whenever you turn off the printer, wait at least five seconds before turning it back on; otherwise, you may damage the printer.

2. Using the tables above, determine whether the setting you want to change is in default-setting mode 1 or 2.

3. To change settings in default-setting mode 1, hold down the Tear Off/Bin button while you press the Operate button to turn on the printer. To change settings in default-setting mode 2, hold down the Tear Off/Bin and LF/FF buttons while you press the Operate button to turn on the printer.

   The printer enters the default-setting mode you selected and prints the language selection instructions (one page).

4. Press the Load/Eject button until the Paper Out and Pause lights indicate the language you want, as described in the language selection instructions.

5. Press the Tear Off/Bin button to print the default-setting mode instructions (two pages) in the language you selected.

   The printed instructions list the settings you can change, describe how to change them, and show you how the control panel lights help you make settings. Use these instructions to change the printer's default settings from the control panel.

   Note:
   The arrows in the instructions indicate the printer's current settings.

6. To save your settings and turn off the printer, press the Operate button. This also exits the default-setting mode.

Note:
You may exit the default-setting mode any time by turning off the printer while it is paused. Any settings you have made remain in effect until you change them again.

Aligning Vertical Lines in Your Printout

If you notice that the vertical lines in your printout are not properly aligned, you can use the printer's bidirectional adjustment mode to correct this problem.

During bidirectional adjustment, the printer prints three sheets of alignment patterns, labeled High Speed Draft, Draft, and NLQ (near letter quality). As described below, you select the best alignment pattern from each sheet.

Note:
To print the instruction sheet and alignment patterns, you need four single sheets or four pages of continuous paper of at least the following sizes:

Paper Type	FX-880	FX-1180
Continuous paper	9.5 x 11 inches (241 x 279 mm)	14.8 x 11 inches (376 x 279 mm)
Single-sheet paper	Letter or A4	A3 landscape

❏ If you use single sheets, you need to load a new sheet of paper each time the printer ejects a printed sheet from the paper guide.

Follow these steps to perform the bidirectional adjustment:

1. Make sure paper is loaded and the printer is turned off.

Caution:
Whenever you turn off the printer, wait at least five seconds before turning it back on; otherwise you may damage the printer.

2. While holding down the Pause button, press the Operate button to turn on the printer. The printer enters the bidirectional adjustment mode and then prints instructions and the first set of alignment patterns.

3. As described in the instructions, compare the alignment patterns and select the pattern with the best alignment. Then select the pattern with the best alignment for each of the remaining sets of alignment patterns.

4. After you select the best pattern in the final set of alignment patterns and save your selection by pressing the Tear Off/Bin button, press the Operate button to turn off the printer and exit the bidirectional adjustment mode.

Printing a Self Test

Running the printer's self test helps you determine whether the printer or the computer is causing the problem:

❏ If the self test results are satisfactory, the printer is working properly and the problem probably results from your printer driver settings, application settings, computer, or interface cable. (Be sure to use a shielded interface cable.)

❏ If the self test does not print properly, there is a problem with the printer.

You can print the self test using either single sheets or continuous paper.

Note:
Use paper of at least the following width:

Paper Type	FX-880	FX-1180
Continuous paper	9.5 inches (241 mm)	14.8 inches (376 mm)
Single-sheet paper	Letter or A4	A3 landscape

To perform a self test, follow these steps:

1. Make sure paper is loaded and the printer is turned off.

Caution:
Whenever you turn off the printer, wait at least five seconds before turning it back on; otherwise you may damage the printer.

2. To run the test using the Draft font, hold down the LF/FF button while you press the Operate button to turn on the printer. To run the test using the printer's near letter-quality fonts, hold down the Load/Eject button while you turn on the printer. Either self test can help you determine the source of your printing problem; however, the draft self test prints faster than the near letter-quality test.

After a few seconds, the printer loads the paper automatically, and then begins printing the self test. A series of characters is printed.

Note:
To temporarily stop the self test, press the Pause button. To resume the test, press the Pause button again.

3. To end the self test, press the Pause button to stop printing. If a printed page remains in the printer, press the Load/Eject button to eject it. Then turn off the printer.

Caution:
Do not turn off the printer while it is printing. Always press the Pause button to stop printing and the Load/Eject button to eject the printed page before you turn off the printer.

Printing a Hex Dump

You can print a hexadecimal dump to isolate communication problems between the printer and your software program. In hex dump mode, the printer prints all data it receives from the computer as hexadecimal values.

You can print a hex dump using either single sheets or continuous paper.

Note:
Use paper that is at least 8.3 inches (210 mm) wide, such as letter- or A4-size paper.

To print a hex dump, follow these steps:

1. Make sure paper is loaded and the printer is turned off.

Caution:
Whenever you turn off the printer, wait at least five seconds before turning it back on; otherwise you may damage the printer.

2. To enter hex dump mode, hold down both the LF/FF and Load/Eject buttons while you press the Operate button to turn on the printer.

3. Open a software program and send a print job to the printer. Your printer prints all the codes it receives in hexadecimal format.

   If characters are printable, they appear in the right column as ASCII characters. Nonprintable codes, such as control codes, are represented by dots. By comparing the characters printed in the right column with the printout of the hexadecimal codes, you can check the codes the printer is receiving.

4. To turn off hex dump mode, press the Pause button, eject the printed page(s), and then turn off the printer.

Cleaning the Printer

To keep your printer operating at its best, you should clean it thoroughly several times a year. Follow these steps:

1. Remove any paper loaded in the printer, and turn off the printer. Then remove the paper guide. If an optional cut-sheet feeder is installed, remove it.

2. Use a soft brush to carefully brush away all dust and dirt from the outer case and paper guide.

3. If the outer case or paper guide is still dirty, clean it with a soft, clean cloth dampened with mild detergent dissolved in water. Keep the printer cover and front cover closed to prevent water from getting inside the printer.

Caution:
Never use alcohols or thinners to clean the printer; these chemicals can damage the printer components as well as the case.

Be careful not to get water on the printer mechanism or electronic components.

Do not use a hard or abrasive brush.

Do not spray the inside of the printer with lubricants; unsuitable lubricants can damage the printer mechanism. Contact an EPSON dealer if you think lubrication is needed.

Transporting the Printer

If you need to transport your printer some distance, carefully repack it using the original box and packing materials, as described below.

1. Remove any paper loaded in the printer, and turn off the printer. Then remove the paper guide.

2. Unplug the power cord from the electrical outlet; then disconnect the interface cable from the printer.

3. If an optional cut-sheet feeder is installed, remove it. If any other options are installed, remove them and pack them in their original boxes.

Warning:
If you just used the printer, the print head may be hot; let it cool before you remove the ribbon cartridge.

4. Remove the ribbon cartridge as described on page 12.

5. Make sure the paper tension unit is installed and the tractor is installed in the rear push position. Close the printer cover and front cover.

6. Repack the printer, ribbon cartridge, paper guide, and power cord (if necessary) in the original packing materials and place them in the printer's original box.

Related Documentation

4008439	EPSON FX-880/FX-1180 User's Guide
4008440	EPSON FX-880/FX-1180 Quick Reference Guide
4007754	EPSON FX-880/FX-1180 Unpacking sheet
TM-FX880	EPSON FX-880 Service Manual
TM-FX1180	EPSON FX-1180 Service Manual
PL-FX880	EPSON FX-880 Parts Price List
PL-FX1180	EPSON FX-1180 Parts Price List