Model 35P Print Mechanisms

Since the introduction of the Model 35P almost twenty years ago, we have been pleased with the Epson print mechanism. The little mechanism has been reliable, it uses little power from the battery, and the printout does not fade with age. Epson still manufactures similar printers in Hong Kong; they are used in several small printing calculators. No printing calculators are made in the USA, and Epson has decreed that no mechanisms are to be exported to the USA.

After working well for ten or fifteen years, the rubber friction rollers that drive the paper deteriorate. We cannot replace the rollers, and we can’t buy replacement mechanisms from Epson. If your Model 35P no longer advances the paper, the only fix is a print mechanism transplant. To support our customers, we’ve purchased printing calculators at retail. We salvage the print mechanisms, install a connector on the signal cable, and check it for proper operation. You can replace the failed mechanisms in your Model 35P in a few minutes. Directions with pictures are provided. If you have problems, then you can send the system back to us and we will make it whole. The newer mechanisms print slower than the original units, but they use less energy from the battery. Some of the printed characters are changed; you might see $ instead of S for standard deviation, but the velocity numbers are correct.

Although our written warranty has been for three years, we charged only for those repairs related to bullet holes or similar damage. We must now charge $50 for the replacement print mechanism. If you mail a check for $50 and a note to Oehler Research, 1308 Barclay Drive, Austin, Texas 78746, we will send you a replacement mechanism postpaid. If you call with a Visa or MasterCard number with expiration date, we will bill for $50 plus the shipping costs.

P.S. The replacement does not include the plastic housing that holds the mechanism. You can’t simply buy the replacement mechanism and add a printer to a M35.
After ten or fifteen years, some Epson printers have failed. A rubber roller used to advance the paper softens and dies. The only solution is a transplant. You need only a flat-blade screwdriver and a little patience.

1. Remove the four screws holding the bottom cover. Remove the bottom cover.

2. Remove the two screws passing thru the circuit board and holding the printer housing to the main unit.

3. Remove the printer housing from the main unit. There is a cable joining the printer to the main unit. The connector will pull straight up; there is no catch or lock. Lay the printer assembly on the table in front of you with the print mechanism and cable exposed.

4. Examine the new mechanism. Remove tape securing ink roller. The cable should be folded so that it matches the photo below. Note that the two distinct grooves on the connector body must face away from the print mechanism.

5. Place the new mechanism alongside the old and match orientation. Remove the screw from the old unit and swap mechanisms. Seat new mechanism securely. Don’t pinch the wires. Replace screw.

6. Replace the printer assembly on top of main unit. Plug the cable from printer securely into the main unit. You will need thin fingers or a little help from the screwdriver to push the connector down.

7. Replace the two screws through the circuit board holding the printer assembly. Note that the printer assembly rides immediately above the molded bezel surrounding the LCD display.

8. Replace the bottom cover.

9. If all else fails, bundle it up and return to Oehler Research, 1308 Barclay Drive, Austin, Texas 78746. We will put it back together and return it to you.

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