

AccessionIndex: TCD-SCSS-T.20141006.003

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Object name: Apple ImageWriter II Colour Printer

Vintage: c.1985

Synopsis: Apple A9M03320 ImageWriter II Colour Printer. S/N: Z069827.

Description:

The Apple A9M03320 ImageWriter II Colour Printer was made by Apple Computer Inc., Cupertino, California 95014, USA.

[Ref: Wikipedia]

The ImageWriter II is a serial based dot matrix printer, introduced by Apple Computer in Sep-1985, compatible with its entire computer product line. It was particularly well known for being extremely sturdy; they were still in common use for forms printing a decade after they were produced. The design was in accordance with Apple's Snow White design concept, using the creamy off-white colour scheme known by Apple as Fog.

The ImageWriter II, like its predecessor, used a 9-pin C.Itoh mechanism. However, the ImageWriter II was significantly faster in draft mode, where it could print 250 characters per second. Colour images and text could be produced by using a colour ribbon, and eight colours were supported by the original version of QuickDraw on the Macintosh despite running on a monochrome platform. On the Apple II, complex full-colour graphics could be printed. Used with the Apple IIGS, the ImageWriter II could produce colour photographs with hundreds of simulated colours.

The ImageWriter II offered three ASCII text-quality modes:

NLQ (near-letter-quality): at 45 CPS, for very high text quality on the Apple II platform or for improved draft printing quality on the Macintosh platform.

Standard (correspondence): at 180 CPS, providing average-quality text.

Draft: at 250 CPS, the highest speed lowest quality level.

In addition to having the same ASCII and European-language characters found in the original ImageWriter, the ImageWriter II added 32 *MouseText* characters.

The ImageWriter II had an expansion socket under the front cover which could accommodate either Apple's AppleTalk network card or 32KB memory buffer card (2KB was built-in), but not both at the same time. It also supported an (unreliable) optional motorized sheet feeder that could feed cut sheet paper.

Many ROM revisions were produced, printable via self-test by pressing the form feed button while turning the ImageWriter on, then releasing both buttons simultaneously; the printer would then print the ROM version as well as dipswitch settings.

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Figure 1: Apple ImageWriter II Colour Printer three-quarter view



Figure 2: Apple ImageWriter II Colour Printer front view

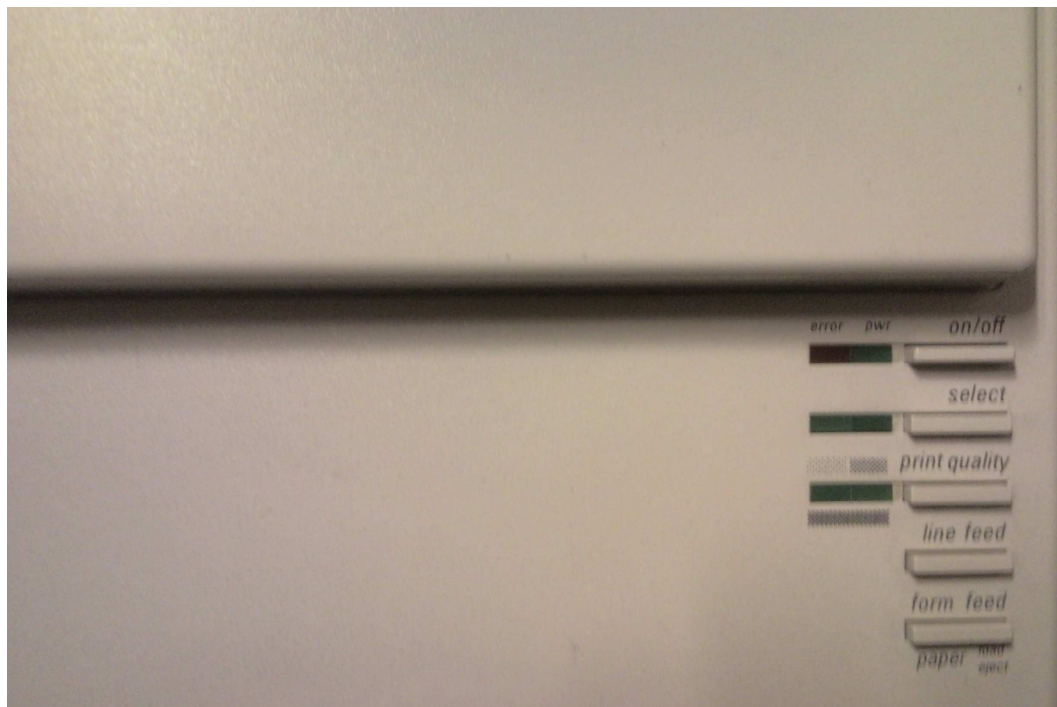


Figure 3: Apple ImageWriter II Colour Printer control panel



Figure 4: Apple ImageWriter II Colour Printer rear view



Figure 5: Apple ImageWriter II Colour Printer serial number Z069827