

Printhead Pressure Adjustment

Before adjusting the printhead pressure, check that the toggles are positioned correctly. See [Toggle Positioning on page 106](#).

Printhead life and drive system life (belts and bearings) can be maximized by using the lowest pressure that produces the desired print quality without allowing the ribbon or media to slip. You may need to adjust the printhead pressure in the following instances:

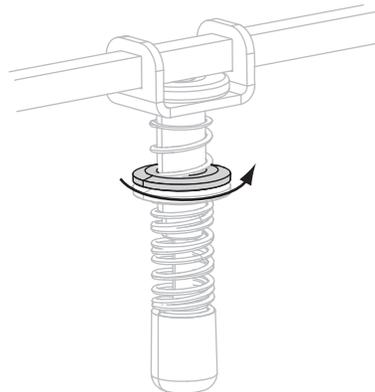
- if there is noticeable bleed or swelling in the printed image (too much pressure)
- if there are voids (too little pressure)
- if the darkness setting (burn duration) is set properly, but printing is too light (too little pressure)
- if the ribbon slips (too little pressure)



Caution • Observe proper electrostatic safety precautions when handling any static-sensitive components such as circuit boards and printheads.

To adjust printhead pressure, complete these steps:

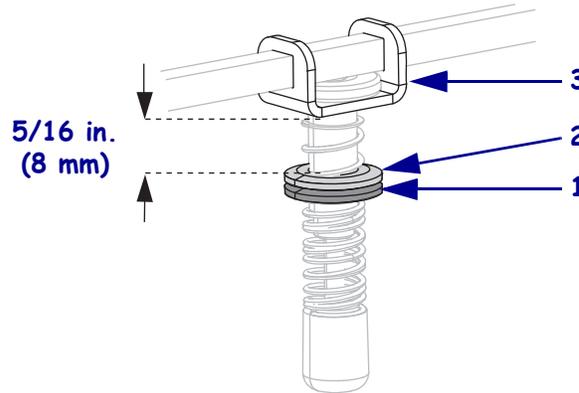
1. As needed throughout this procedure, refer to the [PAUSE Self Test on page 132](#) to print test labels.
2. Refer to [Print Darkness on page 73](#) to set the darkness value (burn duration) appropriately for your media and ribbon.
3. Loosen the locking nut on the toggle assembly.



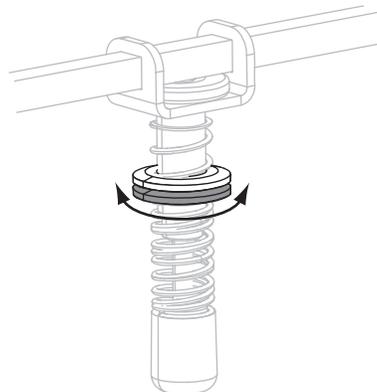


4. **Caution** • The printhead may be hot and could cause severe burns. Allow the printhead to cool.

As a starting point for adjustment, set the position of the adjusting nut (1) and the locking nut (2) so that when the locking nut is tightened, it is approximately 5/16 in. (8 mm) from the yoke (3).



5. Move the adjusting nut until the print quality is acceptable. Use the lowest pressure that provides the desired print quality.
- To increase printhead pressure, move the adjusting nut downward.
 - To decrease printhead pressure, move the adjusting nut upward.



6. To lock the toggle pressure, tighten the locking nut against the adjusting nut.

