EPSON
Knowledge Base

How to select different languages, change the paper length and switch the line feed on / off on DFX 8500 dot matrix printer?

To set these settings you have to change DIP switches.

DIP switch 1

Switch	Description	ON	OFF
1-1	Character table	See Tables-A1 and Table A-2	
1-2			
1-3			
1-4			
1-5			
1-6			
1-7	Skip over perforation	Active	Inactive
1-8	Print direction	Uni-d	Bi-d

DIP switch 2

Switch	Description	ON	OFF
2-1	Page length for	see Table B	
2-2	front tractor		
2-3			
2-4			
2-5	Page length for	See Table C	
2-6	rear tractor		
2-7			
2-8			

DIP Switch 3

Switch	Description	ON	OFF
3-1	Auto tear off	Active	Inactive
3-2	Zero slash	Active	Inactive
3-3	Auto line feed	Active	Inactive
3-4	Buzzer (beep)	Inactive	Active
3-5	Auto CR	Active	Inactive
3-6	IBM character table	Table 1	Table 2
3-7	Auto cut mode	Active	Inactive
3-8	Software	IBM 2381 Plus	ESC/P

DIP switches for front tractor

Page length for front tractor	SW 2-1	SW 2-2	SW 2-3	SW 2-4
11 inches	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF
4 inches	OFF	OFF	ON	ON
5.5 inches	OFF	ON	OFF	OFF
6 inches	OFF	ON	OFF	ON
7 inches	OFF	ON	ON	OFF
8 inches	OFF	ON	ON	ON
8.5 inches	ON	OFF	OFF	OFF
70/6 inches	ON	OFF	OFF	ON
12 inches	ON	OFF	ON	OFF
14 inches	ON	OFF	ON	ON
17 inches	ON	ON	OFF	OFF

DIP switches for rear tractor

| Page length for rear tractor	SW 2-5	SW 2-6	SW 2-7	SW 2-8
11 inches	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF
4 inches	OFF	OFF	ON	ON
5.5 inches	OFF	ON	OFF	OFF
6 inches	OFF	ON	OFF	ON
7 inches	OFF	ON	ON	OFF
8 inches	OFF	ON	ON	ON
8.5 inches	ON	OFF	OFF	OFF
70/6 inches	ON	OFF	OFF	ON
12 inches	ON	OFF	ON	OFF
14 inches	ON	OFF	ON	ON
17 inches	ON	ON	OFF	OFF

What is the exact set-up for the DIP switches?

1. Turn off the printer
2. Open the printer's front cover by lifting the middle of its bottom edge up until it locks in place.
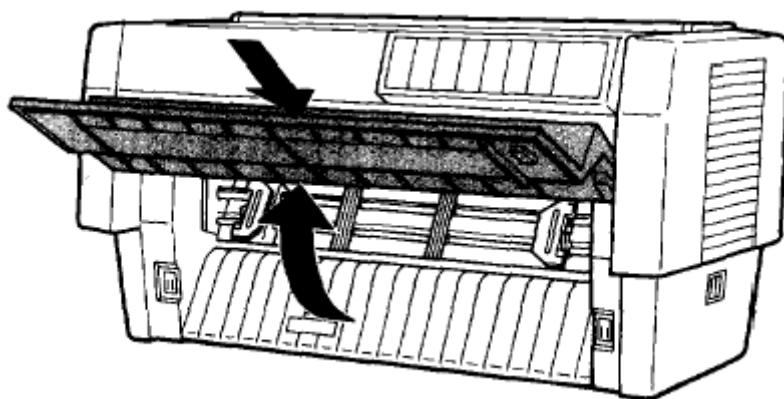
3. The DIP switches are located in a small compartment on the front paper guide, behind the front tractor paper. If paper is loaded on the front tractor, either remove it or lift it up out of the way so you can reach the DIP switches.

4. Open the DIP switch cover
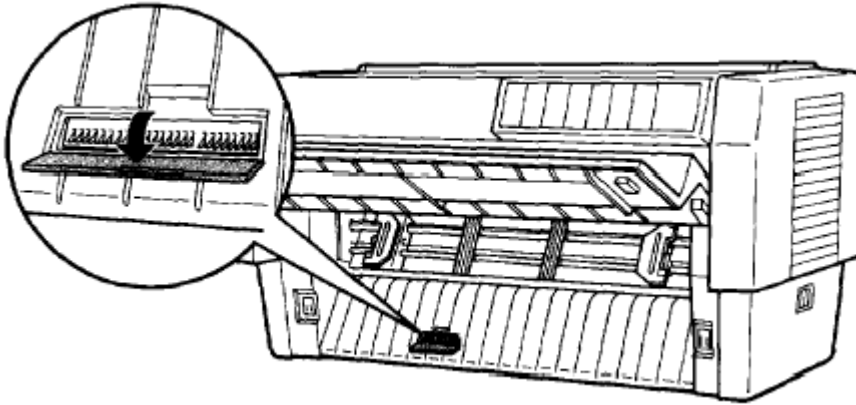
5. Use a pointed instrument, such as the tip of a ballpoint pen, to turn the switch either on or off. A DIP switch is on when it is up, and off when it is down.
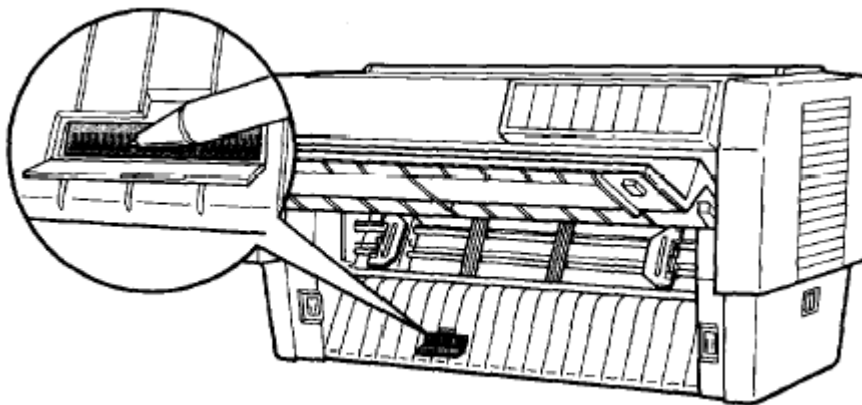
6. Close the DIP-switch cover and replace the paper
7. Next, close the front cover
8. Turn on the printer to initialise the new settings. When you change a DIP-switch setting, the new settings take effect only after you turn on or reset the printer.