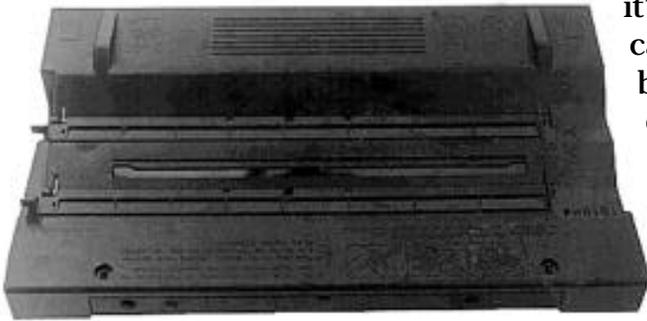


“CARE & FEEDING OF YOUR LASER PRINTER”

□ Andy Niemic

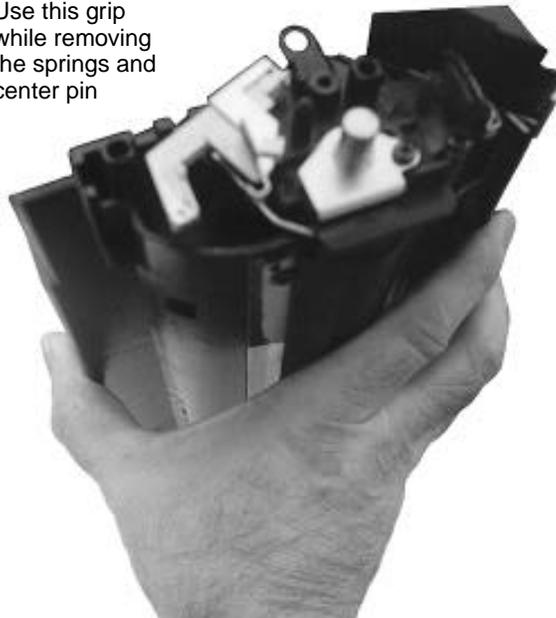
A topic that many SX-engine laser printer users ask me about is the toner cartridge itself. The most common question I'm asked is, "Should I use a remanufactured cartridge or buy new?" Well, for what it's worth, even the original printer manufacturer's cartridge—if you take time to read the outside of the box the cartridge is packaged in—now states: "The cartridge contains both new and used parts." So don't be confused. The decision to use a remanufactured cartridge or, more formally stated, a cartridge with used parts, has been made for you. There may be no such thing as a "new" cartridge. The better question to ask is where to find a company or person to remanufacture your toner cartridge who knows what he is doing and at a cost that is the best deal for you.



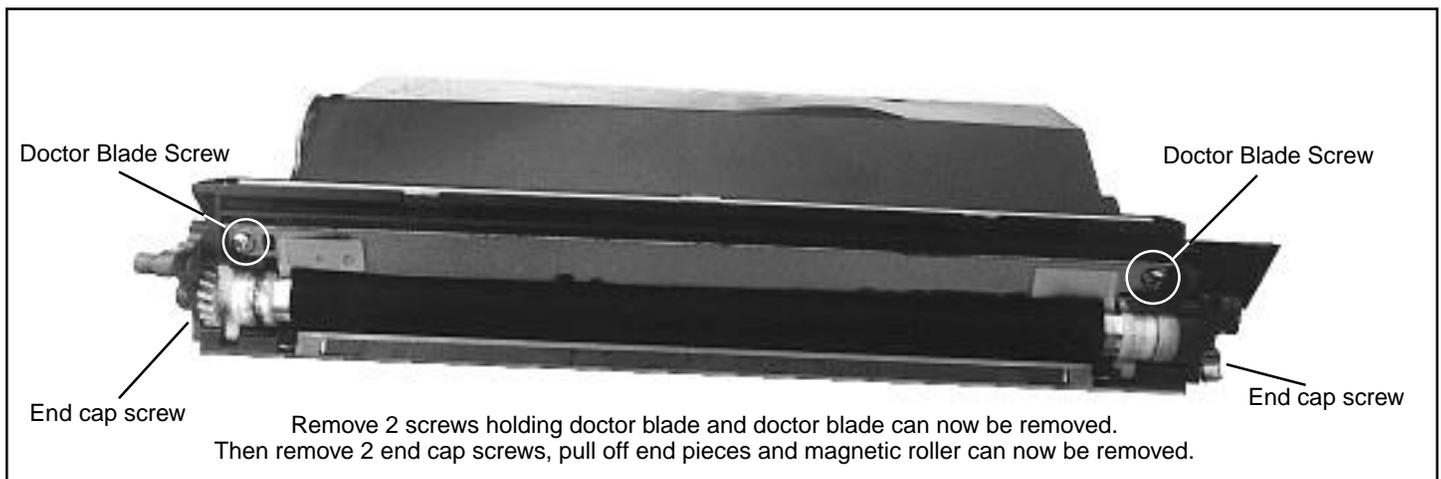
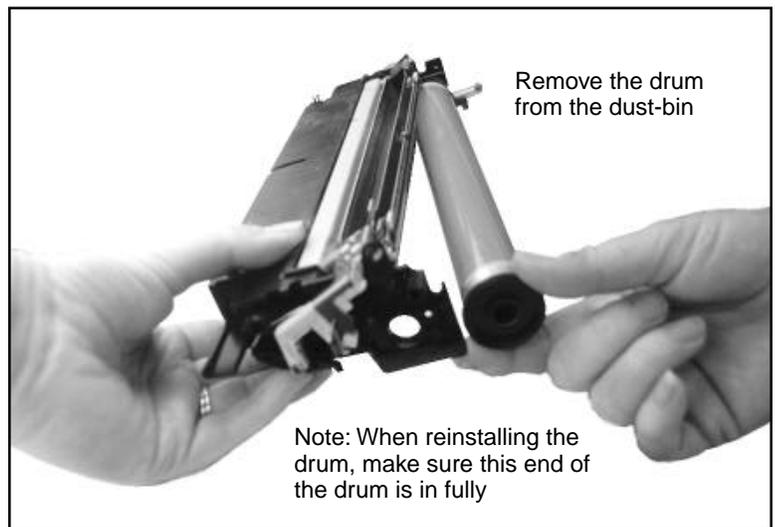
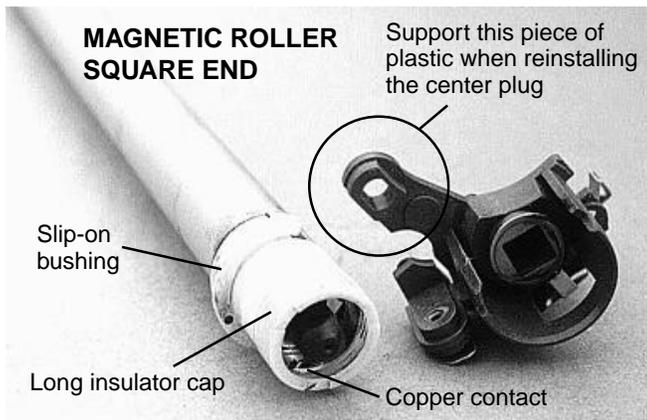
An option many overlook is to remanufacture the toner cartridge yourself. Yes, you can even remanufacture the toner cartridge yourself—and at a great savings! The question you need to ask yourself is: "Am I willing to get toner on my hands? And possibly other places?" Toner can be messy to work with, and if you're the type

of person who doesn't like to work out in the garden or tinker, remanufacturing your own toner cartridge may not be for you.

Use this grip while removing the springs and center pin



Andy Niemic is a respected writer of technical information and how-to manuals. As a world renown expert and consultant, he has set many of the standards for the laser printer repair industry and the cartridge recycling industry. He continues to evaluate products and procedures for these industries.



If you opt for having a company do your cartridge remanufacturing, make sure you always get your own cartridge back. Make sure the photoconductor drum used in your cartridge is not simply coated but is one of the newer aftermarket replacements. Ask the company about the toner it uses. Ask if different toner is used for the black magnetic roller and the silver magnetic roller.

And ask specifically for 275 grams of toner! Let me warn you in advance: when you ask questions such as the ones I'm suggesting, the company may give wild answers. The more knowledgeable companies will give you answers without hesitation. But if the person you talk with doesn't know or has to ask someone else at his company for the answers, hang-up and try another company. Hopefully you will find someone who understands that putting toner back into a cartridge takes more than using the customer as a guinea pig.

The nice thing about remanufacturing your own toner cartridge is you know how much toner is being put into the cartridge and the quality of materials used.

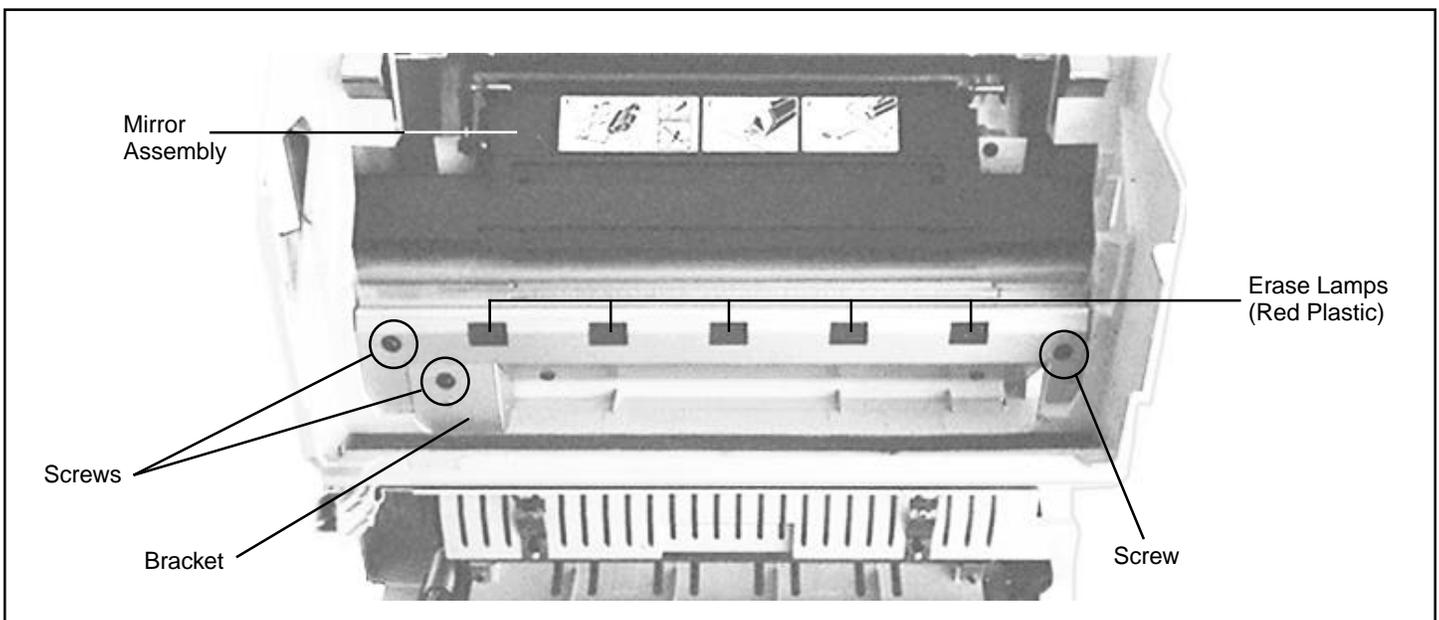
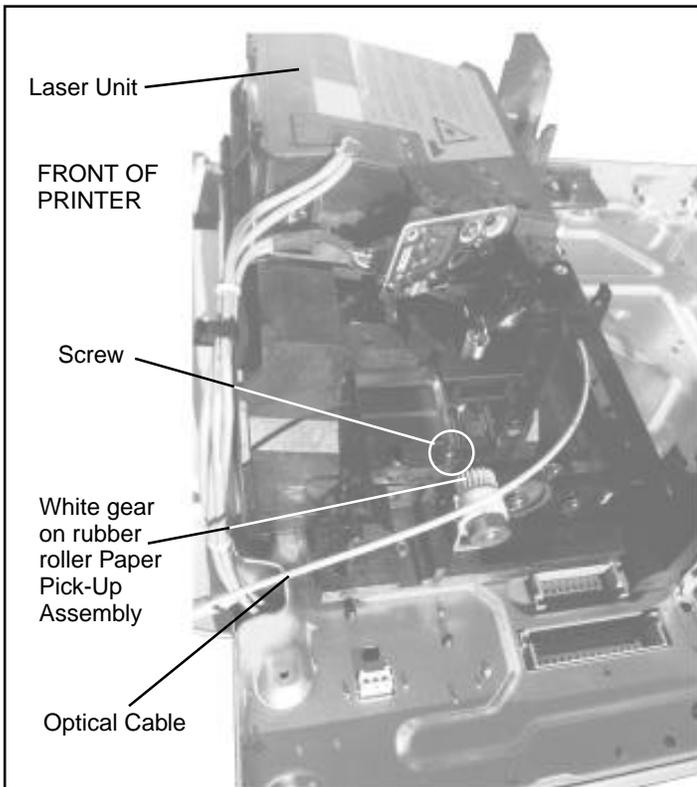
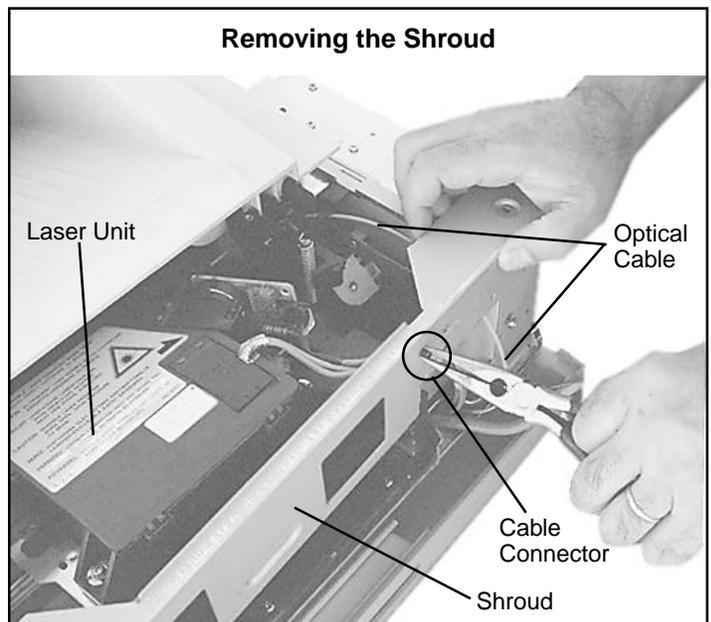
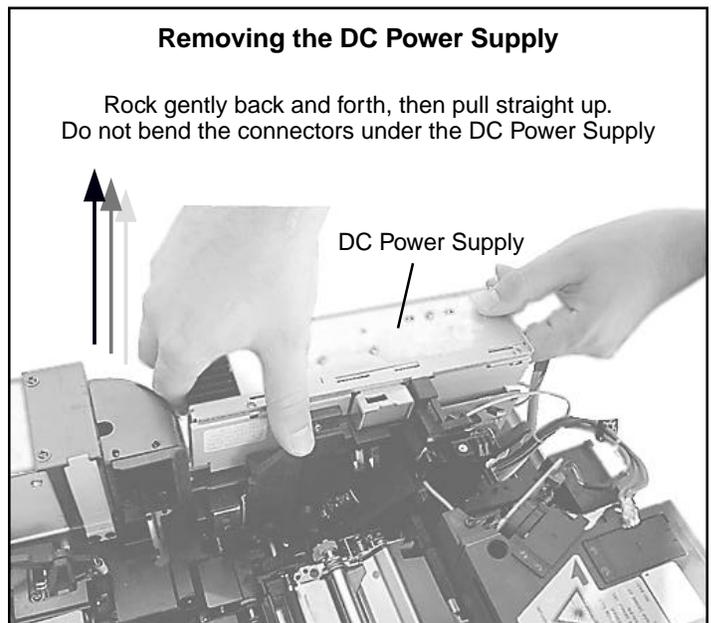
PRINTER MAINTENANCE:

The best way to protect your investment and to ensure the best quality from your laser printer is preventive maintenance. Dirt and dust that collect inside your printer also holds in heat and/or can hinder the mechanical operation of the printer. Over-heat an electronic component and the life of that dirt-coated electronic component can be seriously reduced. Force a mechanical part to change its normal path or to endure extra stress and the part wears out before it should have.

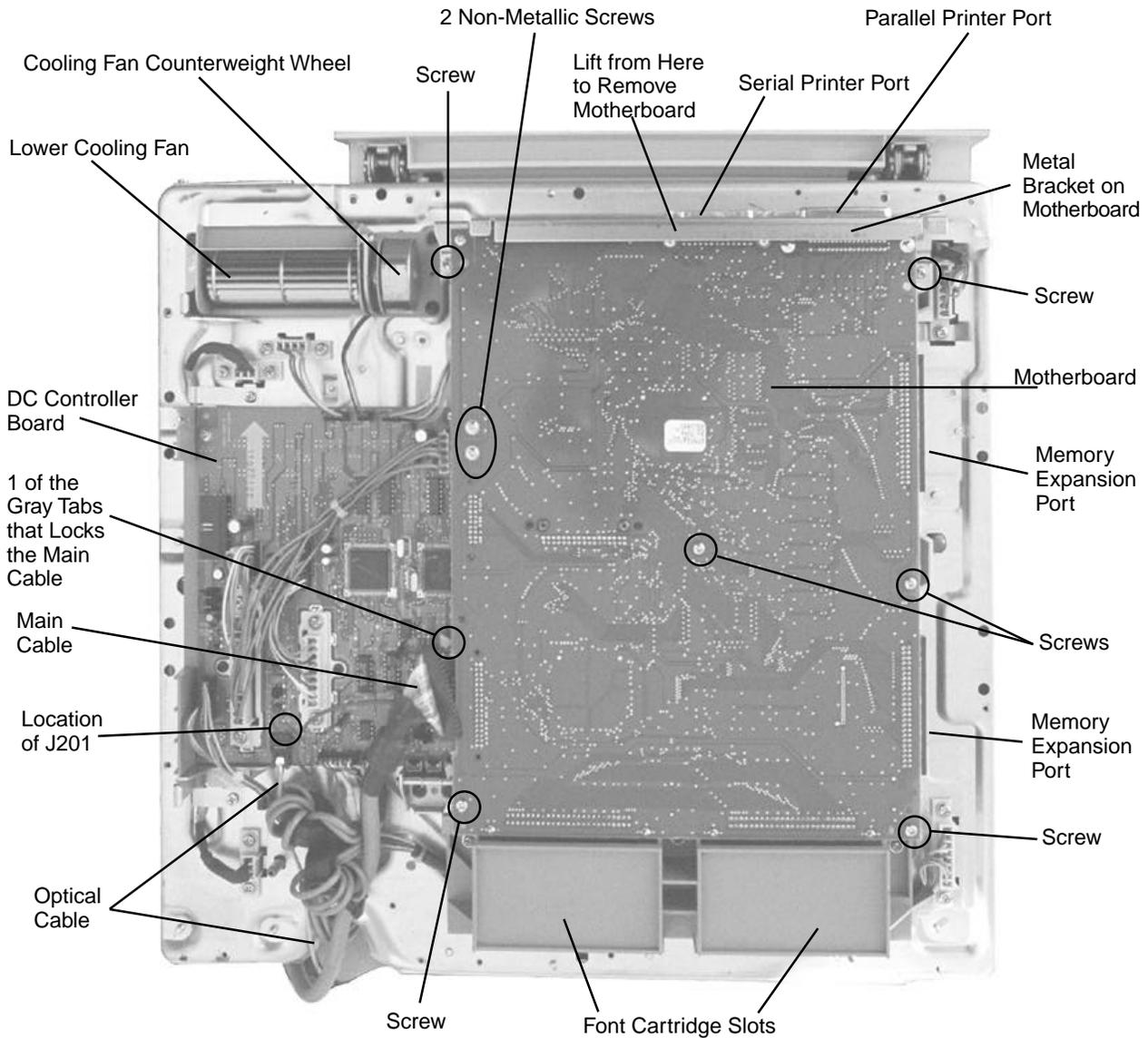
Cleaning a printer is always less expensive than replacing a part that has failed. A clean printer will control your need for expensive repair services. Cleaning, if done by a repair

technician, can cost from \$75 to \$150. The cost for cleaning involves a few cotton swabs, cotton cloths and lubricants that amount to under a dollar. What you're paying for is time and knowing what screw to remove.

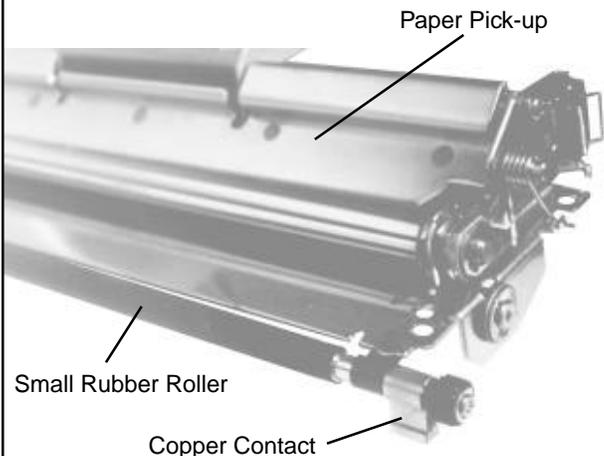
Again, armed with a pictorial repair manual and a screwdriver, the real cost is your time. Cleaning takes about one hour if you're doing the cleaning for the first time, and 30 minutes once you get the hang of it.



Bottom View - Both Pans Removed, Circuit Boards Exposed



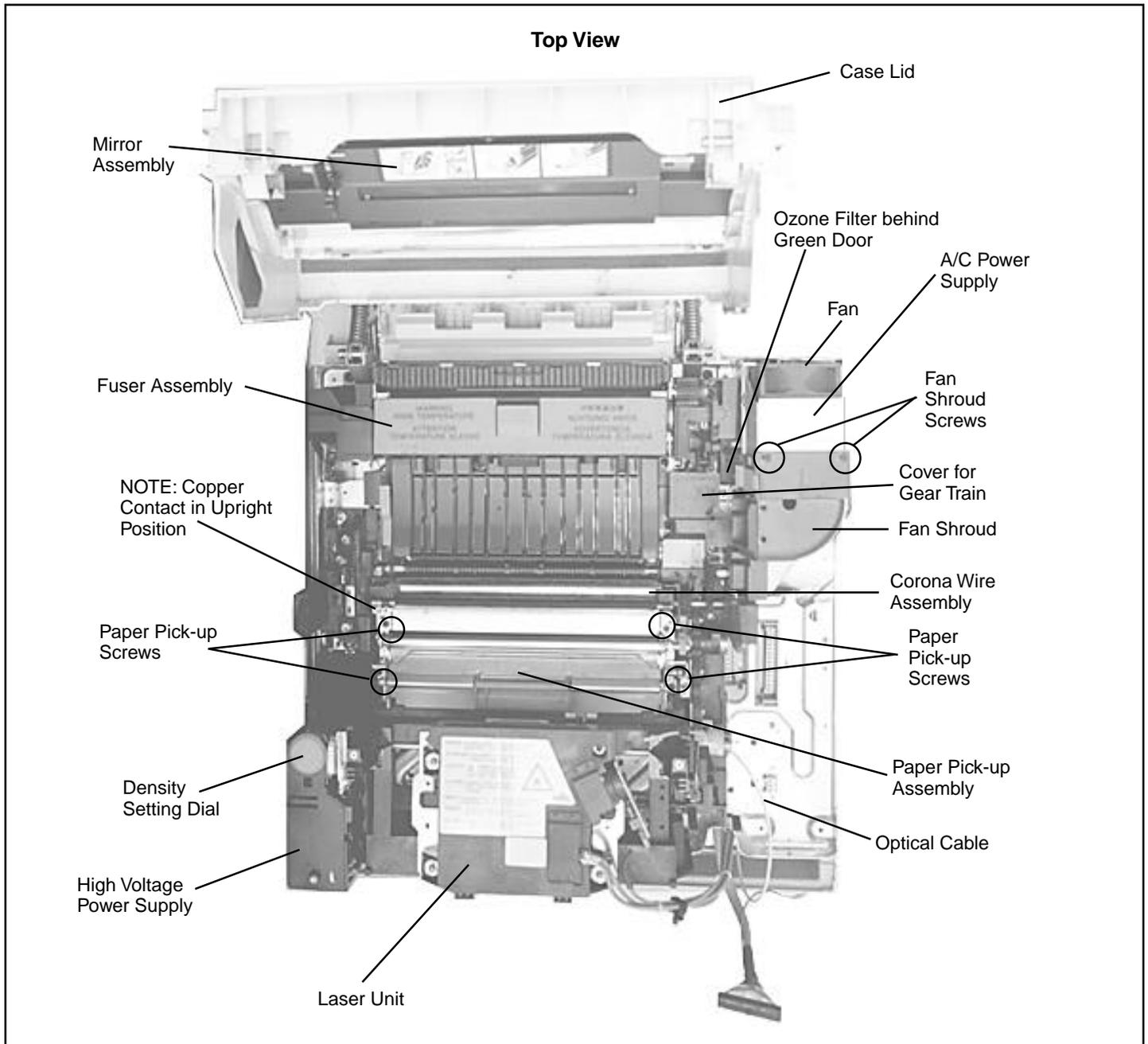
Paper Pick-up Assembly



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For further information, contact Unicorn Grafex, Inc. (602) 234-0363 or fax (602) 274-6115.



The key to protecting your investment and health is common sense and printer maintenance. And it is something you can do yourself! To learn about other printer maintenance you can do yourself, see additional information on the following topics:

“Poison Gas From Your Laser Printer and How To Control It”

Changing your ozone filter

“What’s Wrong With This Picture?”

Identifying print defects

“Repair Fuser & Paper Pick-Up Assemblies”

Step-by-step instructions with photos

For information on purchasing pictorial manuals, quality ozone filters, and other products for the laser printer, contact:



Unicorn Grafix, Inc.

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