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Abstract of the Disclosure (Fig. 1):

PRINTER AND METHOD FOR CONTROLLING SAME

A compact printer capable using any of a plurality of printing tracks or colors of an ink ribbon is disclosed in which line drive means for driving a print head (1) are also used for operating ribbon shift means in order to select a desired printing track or color. Preferably, the stroke of a reciprocating movement of the print head is divided into a printing region within which printing on a recording paper (7) is performed, and two non-printing end regions. The ribbon shift means is operated in response to the line drive means moving the print head into a non-printing end region. Moving the print head into one end region causes a track setting mechanism to set a desired printing track, whereas moving the print head into the opposite end region causes a track resetting mechanism (50) to release the track setting by the track setting mechanism. A cam member having a stepped cam face provided on a pivotally supported setting lever which is operated by engagement with the print head is used as the track setting mechanism. Also disclosed is a control method for controlling this printer such as to allow multi-color printing.

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