

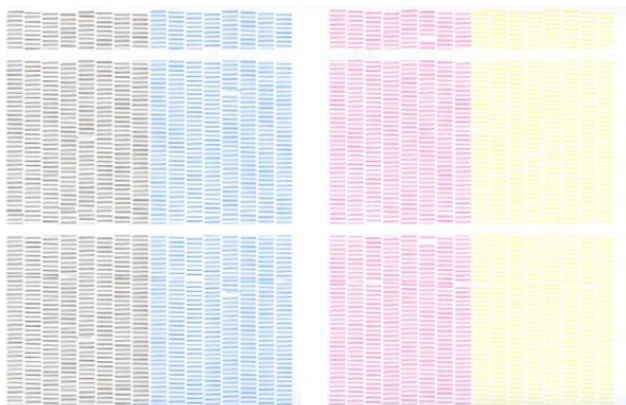


Banding

Banding, like most printing issues, can be caused by many reasons. Banding is classified by horizontal stripes running in the scan direction of the print. Although banding can be caused by many reasons and described in many ways this checklist will help to eliminate the amount of banding seen on a device.

	<p>This is a sample of a type of banding that is being caused by drop out or the failure of the head to fire. The head could be dirty and need cleaning, the dampers or manifold may be failing or possibly the head has exceeded its lifespan and needs to be replaced.</p>
	<p>Banding such as this is an indication that the media feed calibration is not set properly. In an instance such as this the feed calibration would need to be increased to bring the print passes apart to remove the overlap.</p>

Perform a nozzle test pattern to make sure all of the heads are firing properly. If not perform cleanings until the test pattern is correct.



Check condition of the wipers. Heads that are not properly cleaned will have ink build up which can wick across the head and cause drop out which creates banding.

Perform a thorough manual cleaning of the print heads, cap tops, wipers, wiper scraper and serge mist filter.

NOTE: Keep in mind something that is known in the industry as the “lawn mower effect” can sometimes be referred to as banding. The “lawn mower effect” is basically a slight difference in hue on a print in one pass direction compared to the other when printing in a bi-directional mode. This type of banding is not actually banding at all and only a difference between the print head placing the dots in outgoing and return pass since each pass places ink down the in opposite order. This can be minimized by increasing the print quality or increasing the number of print passes. This effect can be eliminated completely by printing in the uni-directional mode.