Olivetti Lettera DL

Carriage Locking Lever 16
When carrying the typewriter in its case, it is wise to lock the carriage in the central position using lever 16 on the right-hand side.

Line Space and Carriage Return Lever 6
This lever is used to return the carriage from the end of a typing line, and simultaneously to move the paper up ready for the next line. When you cover the typewriter, or put it in its case, always move the lever back, ease it to the left, and then push it into the down position.

Line Space Selector 8
The distance between the lines of typing is determined by lever 8, which has four different positions. Position 0 disengages the platen from the spacing mechanism for typing between the lines or returning to a previous line.

Variable Line Spacing Knob 7
To disengage the platen from the spacing mechanism, press knob 7.

Margin Stops 10
To set the left-hand margin - slide the carriage until the type guide is immediately below the point at which you wish to begin typing. Move the left-hand margin stop to the right until it comes to a halt.

To set the right-hand margin - slide the carriage to the left until the type guide is immediately below the point at which you wish to finish typing. Move the right-hand margin to the left until it comes to a halt.

Margin Release 4
It is possible to free the carriage to move outside either of the two margin stops by pressing key 4. The same key, if kept depressed whilst bringing the carriage back to the beginning of the next typing line, will stop the carriage approximately ½” from the left-hand margin.

Paper Release Lever 15
When pulled forward it loosens the paper under the platen. It is used for adjusting the paper square to the typing line, after it has been inserted in the machine.

Space Bar 21
As well as moving the carriage along a space at a time, the space bar can also be used to correct the accidental omission of a letter from a word, without having to erase the whole line. For example, if you have typed, "a very good idea..." instead of "...a very good idea... insert the missing letter o... as follows: 1) Erase the word god; 2) Set the carriage against the y of very; 3) Overtype the y, depress the space bar and, holding it depressed, type the letter g; 4) Let the space bar rise, depress it and (again holding it depressed) type the letter o; 5) Type o and d in the same way.
Using the Tabulator
The tabulator makes it easy to type columns of words or figures by stopping the carriage at the beginning of each column. Set (and subsequently clear) the tabulator stops with the tabulator setting and clearing lever 3: you can then control the carriage movement from column to column with the tabulator key 20.

To set the new tabulator stops, move the carriage against the position in which you want the first letter of the first column. Press the tabulator lever 3 upwards and release it. Follow the same procedure to set tabulator stops for any further columns.

To tabulate, once the tabulator stops have been set and you have begun typing, depress the red tabulator key 20 until the carriage is brought into position for typing the first letter of the next column.

To clear a single stop bring the carriage to the stop in question with the tabulator key 20. Push the tabulator lever 3 downwards and release it. To clear all the existing stops, hold the tabulator lever 3 down while you move the carriage along its full length.

Ribbon Colour Change Lever 18
By setting this lever against the blue dot, you type on the upper half of the ribbon; by setting it against the red dot, you type on the lower half. The white dot is used for stencils.

Detachable Top Cover 17
The easily detachable top cover 17 gives access to the ribbon spools, to the type faces (for cleaning), and to the personal touch tuning lever.

Personal Touch Tuning 5
The touch tuning lever will be found under the detachable top cover on the left-hand side, and will enable you to adjust the key tension to suit your touch. The highest position is the lightest, the lowest position is the heaviest.

Paper Supports
To raise the paper supports, press the small bracket which juts out at the bottom of them. They are particularly useful when you are typing several copies.

Ribbon Changing
Remove the detachable cover and wind the ribbon on to one of the spools. Slide the ribbon out of the ribbon vibrator, lift the two springs that hold the spools in place, and take the spools out. Hook the new ribbon on to the empty spool, and wind it until the metal eyelet, about 6" from the end, is covered. Replace the spools on their spindles, and checking that the lower half of the ribbon is the red part, repeat the previous operations in reverse.

Maintenance
Cleaning the letters - If your typescript loses its usual crispness, the typefaces should be cleaned. Dip the nylon brush which is supplied in the cleaning kit, into a good typewriter fluid and clean each typeface individually.

Cleaning the platen - When necessary wipe the platen with a clean white cloth dipped in alcohol.

General Care - For a general check-up, or for any other servicing, take the typewriter to the nearest Olivetti branch or dealer.