Makerbot Replicator 2 and 2X: Barrel oiling

Version 1.1

MY PRINT OUTS KEEP STOPPING PART WAY THROUGH.

We have seen a lot of this in older machines. Basically the machine loads and starts printing perfectly, and then usually extrusion gets thin and stops. Leaving a rough surface to the in complete print out.

WHY?

Put simply the barrel has dries out. The barrels used to be sintered. This is where, at manufacture they are submersed in boiling oil and consequently oil infused. We are not sure for certain that they are still made that way, but regardless they are drying out.

How can you fix this?

This is the easiest fix ever! What you need :

A Chux (or similar)

Machine oil (you can get it at the supermarket), baby oil also works.

A bulldog clip, or peg

Take Chux and put a few drops of oil on it.

Wrap oily rag around filament

Clip bulldog clip on rag (not on filament) so that it hold still around filament and wipes oil onto filament as the machine loads/prints

Unload filament, cut end and wipe first 15-20 cm with oil

Load and print

We could not believe this. It really does work. We have tested it with Makerbot and Bilby brand filament , on 3 different brand printers. 100% success!





WHAT ELSE COULD CAUSE THESE SYMPTOMS?

A work of warning. These symptoms can also be caused by:

- Worn plunger (replicator 2 only)
- Damaged lever arm (replicator 2 only)
- Damaged feeder system (Replicator 2X)
- Damaged thermocoupler causing temperature to fall lower than melting temperature
- Damaged motor cable causing motor to stop (very rare)
- Damaged bot step on extruder motor (very very rare)

There are fact sheets on each of these at support.bilbycnc.com.au