

# Tips on the Lilliput Typewriter

Richard Polt

This children's typewriter was made in England around 1970. It's more of a novelty or a fun piece of décor than a serious writing machine, but it does type. Here are a few tips:

- The space bar is below the lip of the case, so in order to type a little more comfortably you may want to remove the typewriter from the case. There is a single screw on the bottom of the case.
- There is no carriage return lever. Just push the carriage back and turn a knob to advance the paper. The square button at the left end of the carriage is the carriage release.
- This is a three-row, double-shift keyboard. Use the FIGS shift for numerals and punctuation.
- If you push the shift keys away from you and towards the typewriter after shifting, they will lock the carriage in the shifted position. Pull them back toward you to unlock.
- The ribbon cover pulls forward. It does not come off. The correct ribbon width is 7/16". Replacing the ribbon is a bit challenging. Two round plastic pieces cover the ribbon and are held on with cotter pins that you can slide off (being careful not to lose them). The ribbon winds around two cylinders that are under the round pieces. Pay close attention to the ribbon's path; I recommend taking photos.