

Silk Screen Kit

Follow these instructions to create beautiful custom silkscreens! Great for ceramics, glass, canvas, & other crafts. Before you begin, gather the materials included in the kit as well as any extra supplies.

Kit Materials

Photo Transparent Inkjet Film (5 sheets)
Pink Photo Emulsion Sheets (2 sheets)
Side Clamps for exposure frames
10.5" x 12" Plastic Canvas
12" x 12" Black Photosensitive Panel
12" x 12" Clear Photosensitive Panel
Black Cardstock

Extra Supplies

Area with plenty of sunlight
Area with subdued light
Inkjet printer
Paper Towel
Sink or tub in area with subdued light
Timer
60 watt yellow bug light



Let's Get Started!

1. Create an image or design for print.
 - ◆ A handmade drawing, simple text, clip art, or a digital graphic will work well. All designs and images must be opaque black with lines about 1/32" thick. (About the thickness of a line drawn by a fine Sharpie marker.)
 - ◆ Trace over any lines that are too thin or not dark enough with an opaque black marker.
 - ◆ Your finished product is only as crisp and clear as the original artwork. You may wish to use a software program that converts your image into black and white.
 - ◆ Hold your final design up to a light to check for areas that need darkening before printing.
2. Set your inkjet printer to black only, on the darkest setting available.
3. Run a test piece of regular paper through your inkjet printer to determine which side of the paper your printer prints on.
4. Once you've determined which side of paper your printer prints on, load one Transparency Film into your inkjet printer so the print side is printed on. Print your design on the Transparency Film.
 - ◆ If the cut corner of the film is in the upper right hand corner, the print side is facing up. The un-printable side is very smooth.
 - ◆ After printing, hold film up to a light to confirm the design is dark enough.
5. Prepare your area with subdued light.
 - ◆ A room without windows or direct sunlight is best. Cover any windows with black trash bags.
 - ◆ Replace your standard light bulb with a 60 watt Bug Light (Yellow).
 - ◆ Lay a paper towel on your work area to prevent scratching.
 - ◆ Locate an area with plenty of sunlight closeby. You'll need to get there quickly and easily during this process.
 - ◆ Have a timer and an extra trash bag ready.
 - ◆ Lay the Plastic Canvas in a nearby sink below the faucet.

6. Remove the paper from both sides of the Black and Clear 12"x12" Photosensitive Panels. Set aside, being careful not to scratch them.

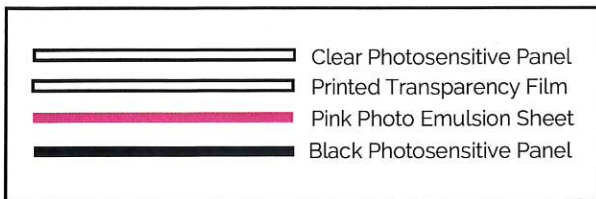
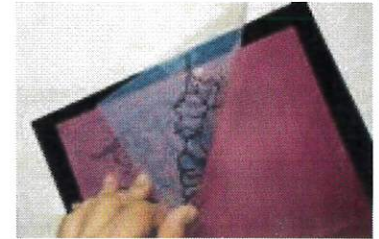
7. While in the dark room, cut the Pink Photo Emulsion Sheet to fit your design, leaving a 3/4" border around the edge.

- ◆ Example: For a 7" square design, cut the sheet to 8 1/2" square.
- ◆ For best results, cut the sheet in a square or rectangle shape.

8. Place the Black Photosensitive Panel on the paper towel to prevent scratching.

9. Center the Pink Photo Emulsion Sheet on top of the Black Photosensitive Panel, with the shiny side facing up.

10. Now, center and place your Transparency Film with your design, printed side down.



11. Finally, place your Clear Photosensitive Panel on top.

12. Place a clamp on each of the 4 sides of the group of sheets (exposure frame). Gently press in the center of the exposure frame to ensure good contact.

13. Completely cover the top of the completed exposure frame with a piece of black cardstock.



14. Take your exposure frame and timer to the sunny area.

- ◆ If it's not a sunny day, you can use a fluorescent flood light instead. You'll want to position the exposure frame 12" below the light (a clamp style works well) and allow 10 minutes to expose, instead of 15-20 seconds.

A light with the following specifications is recommended:
90W | Uses 26 W | 1300 Lumens | Outdoor Flood Light | Light Appearance 2700 K

15. Set your timer for 15-20 seconds. Slide the black cardstock off the top of the exposure frame, and hold perpendicular to the sun until the timer goes off.

16. Quickly cover the exposure frame with the black cardstock and go to the sink in your subdued light area.

17. Remove the cardstock and clamps. Take the exposure frame apart and position the Pink Photo Emulsion Sheet on the Plastic Canvas. Run under warm water for about 30 seconds, turning the sheet over a couple of times until your design starts to appear.

18. If you have a spray nozzle on your faucet, spray design on both sides until there are no traces of pink left on the design (about 1 minute).

If you don't have a spray nozzle on your faucet, continue rinsing with a heavy stream of warm water for 2 to 3 minutes.

19. Hold the screen up to the light to check the design. If there are still cloudy areas, gently spray those areas with water.

20. To dry, carefully blot the silkscreen with a paper towel to remove excess water. Place the silkscreen on a piece of string using the clamps. Do not bend the screen.



Now you're ready to create beautiful custom works of art using your unique design!

Enjoy!