Sublimation and Mug Heat Press Guide

Sublimation Printer

1. Print desired image onto transfer paper using the settings ‘Matte paper’ and ‘High Quality’ (White side, not yellow-ish side*).
2. If needed, secure design to surface using heat tape.
3. Protect surfaces using baking paper to prevent ink from staining the press or other areas.
4. Use appropriate heat press for type of blank you are using (Testing is recommended before final product.*)
5. Peel transfer paper after cooling (for acrylic you may need to wash residue off with water)

*Some brands will clearly indicate which side to print on.

**Check manufacturer guidelines for your material as time/temperature may vary for optimal results.

Material	Temperature	Time
100% Polyester	180 C	30 seconds
Acrylic	180 C	30 seconds
Vinyl	180 C	30 seconds
Sublimation HTV Vinyl	180-200 C	40 seconds
Mugs, tumblers, glasses	See Mug Heat Press section	

Tips:

Most synthetic fabrics can be sublimated on to. It’s recommended don’t go lower than 50% polyester (test first, may have a ‘vintage’ look from being less vibrant). Nylons and spandex are also useable.

Whiteboard marker works well as masking in areas you don’t want ink being transferred to.

Mug Heat Press Guide

1. Before turning on the press, place your blank inside the heat pad and adjust the pressure (red ball and screw). The blank should be held firmly but not tight – you should not need a lot of force to close it. Remove the blank before proceeding.
2. Prepare your blank: use heat-resistant tape to tape your transfer paper or vinyl to the blank. Make sure there is always a layer (either baking paper, or teflon) between the blank and heat pad.
3. Turn on the press (red switch) and set the press time and temperature:
    a. Press “set” until “t” displays on the main display, you can then adjust the **time** on the smaller display.
    b. Press “set” until “sp” displays on the main display, you can then adjust the **temperature** on the smaller display.

    c. Press “set” once more to exit.
4. Wait for the press to reach your set temperature.
5. Place the blank in the heat pad and close the lever, then press the black switch to start the timer
    a. When placing a blank in, it will drop the temperature of the heat pad. The timer will not start until the temperature returns to the set temperature.
6. When the timer beeps turn off the black switch to reset the timer; release the lever and remove the blank (it will be hot).

Safety

- Blanks will be hot when removing them from the press, for ceramic mugs the handle is normally OK to touch, for metal tumblers the entire tumbler will be hot. Blanks can retain their heat for a long time.
- Some materials like glass and ceramic can shatter if they get too hot or have too much pressure applied.
- Place your finished blank on a heat-proof mat to cool (not directly on a desk).
- Always present the heat-press-in-use sign outwards while the press is on.
- Do not touch the heatpad.

Settings*

Blank Material	Method	Temperature	Time (seconds)	Notes
Ceramic Mug	Sublimation	190	180	
Stainless Steel Tumbler	Sublimation	185	60-90	
Glass Tumbler	Sublimation	190	180-240	
-	Vinyl	See vinyl settings	See vinyl settings	

*Always check the settings for your blank, it may differ from these

Where to get blanks

If you are sublimating: blanks need to have a special coating to allow the design to transfer, these are sold as sublimation blanks. There are two main places in Auckland that stock sublimation blanks:

- amonenterprises.co.nz (Birkdale)
- magictransfer.co.nz (Henderson/Manukau)

Sizes

The press can take blanks between 72-92mm in diameter. For larger blanks you will not be able to press a full wrap-around design in one go. The maximum pressable height is 105mm. The press will not work for blanks with a tapered body.