

Heat Transfer

Heat transfer involves creating an image in reverse, printing it to high-release paper, and then transferring the image from the paper to a garment using heat and pressure. It's ideal for quick turn-around times and small quantities, including one-off items such as printing names and numbers on athletic uniforms.



HEAT TRANSFER PROCESS

IMAGE DESIGN:

Create a customized graphic using professional graphics software. Digital photographs, logos, slogans and other graphics are all suitable for heat transfer. When the design is complete, flip the image horizontally to create a reverse image.

TRANSFER PRINTING:

Once you've created your reversed digital image, print it onto transfer paper using heat transfer-compatible ink. Cut away any unprinted portions of the paper to avoid leaving excess transfer film on your garment.

APPLYING TRANSFER:

Place your garment on a platen to keep it flat and wrinkle-free during printing. Position the transfer on the garment, then use a heat press machine to apply high temperature (typically 385° F) and pressure to affix the transfer to the fabric. No drying or curing is required, although you should use caution when removing the hot garment from the press.

HEAT TRANSFER EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES

- **Computer with graphics software**, e.g., *Adobe Creative Suite*
- **Inkjet printer, ink and transfer paper;**
- **Heat Press:** Choose a press that applies consistent even pressure and has accurate temperature and time gauges.
- **Substrate:** Heat transfer is suitable for cotton, cotton blend and polyester garments. Light colors are preferable, but dark colors can be successfully printed with proper preparation.

DISCLAIMER:

The suggested temperature provided is not applicable to all machines and should be used as a general guide, especially when printing on Neon colors. In general use as little heat as possible while still curing the ink, that is both in terms of flashing and in your oven. In all cases a longer flashing or drying time and lower heat levels are recommended.