

Dolphin Litho Transfer Paper Instructions

The use of Dolphin Litho Transfer Paper (DLTP) is an exacting procedure and extreme care must be exercised to insure the desired results. DLTP will provide excellent results for both direct transfer techniques (hand drawing materials on DLTP) and retransfer techniques (transferring from one printing surface to another, plate or stone to stone). Transferring procedures like all printmaking procedures will depend on the individual's desired results. The following general instructions will produce satisfactory results for a wide variety of transfers; however, personal adjustments will undoubtedly be necessary.

PREPARATION OF A DAMP PACK

All procedures described hereafter will require the proper use of a DAMP PACK

1. A DAMP PACK is made of newsprint—clean dry sheets at least 2 inches larger on all sides of the sheet of DLTP.
2. Thoroughly wet four sheets of clean newsprint.
3. Interleaf dry sheets of newsprint with the wet ones, thereby creating an alternating stack of newsprint. Smooth down and allow to blot for 2-3 minutes. The desired result will be 4 evenly damp sheets of newsprint.
4. Start another stack with these 4 damp sheets and 3 dry ones.
 - 1 dry sheet of newsprint
 - 2 damp sheets of newsprint
 - 1 dry sheet of newsprint
 - 2 damp sheets of newsprint
 - 1 dry sheet of newsprint

Smooth these down with your hands and let stand for 2-3 minutes.

5. The damp pack should now be ready for use. Just before you are ready to start the transfer procedure, remove the middle dry sheet and replace it with 2 clean dry sheets. Let stand one minute.
6. Carefully place DLTP face up between the 2 dry sheets of newsprint.
7. The DLTP emulsion should become evenly tacky. The time required for this result will vary depending on the existing relative humidity. To test the tackiness, expose a corner of the DLTP and lightly tap the emulsion with your finger.

DIRECT TRANSFER TECHNIQUE

Any hand drawing material can be used on the DLTP with exception of water tusche. (Water will dissolve the emulsion as will fingertips; therefore, you must handle the paper with care.)

1. After your drawing is completed, set up the press with a clean stone or plate in place and the pressure at firm with the rigid tympan on top.
2. Place the DLTP in a DAMP PACK. (See the PREPARATION OF A DAMP PACK) When the DLTP is ready the following step must be completed as quickly as possible.
3. When even tackiness to the surface of DLTP is achieved, place it face down on a dry stone or plate, back it up with a clean sheet of newsprint and place the rigid tympan on top.
4. Run the stone through the press quickly, but only ONCE.
5. With a sponge and warm water, wet the back of the DLTP until it is evenly translucent. This takes about 2-3 minutes.
6. Carefully remove DLTP backing from the surface of the stone or plate.
7. For direct transfer it must be remembered that certain litho drawing materials are water soluble, i.e. crayons, therefore, a mixture of 1:1 gum and water should be used to remove excess emulsion. Extreme care should be used in removing this emulsion as the drawing material is fragile at this point.
8. Sponge to a thin film and complete drying with a fan.
9. Rosin and Talc the image. Gum with 14 degree baume° and buff tight with a cheese cloth and fan dry.
10. The image then can be washed out with lithotine and rolled or rubbed up, which ever is preferable. (Refer to Tamarind Book of Lithography for a rub technique.)
11. The image can now be treated as a normal printing surface.

RETRANSFER TECHNIQUE

For retransferring an image from one stone or plate to another stone, use the following procedure

1. Mix a transfer ink. Any good quality transfer or retransfer ink will work, i.e. Charbonnel retransfer ink or Sinclair Valentine stiff transfer ink (FL-61173). Use a 1:1 ratio of Senefelder's crayon black and transfer ink.
2. Using this ink mixture, roll up image to be transferred.
3. After the image is rolled up full, fan stone or plate dry.
4. Place a clean sheet of DLTP face up in the DAMP PACK. Follow the same procedure as outlined in heading DAMP PACK; however, the emulsion should now only be slightly tacky. Too much stickiness will cause the DLTP to adhere to the stone.
5. Pull an impression from a dry stone or plate on the DLTP as quickly as possible with medium printing pressure. This transfer will last approximately one week. You may make deletions with lithotine or by simply wiping the image with a dry cloth. Or additions may be made with crayon or solvent wash, the same materials used in DIRECT TRANSFER.
6. Set up your press with a stone grained to #220 grit.
7. Place inked DLTP in a freshly prepared DAMP PACK. Allow it to sit until the emulsion becomes tacky as in DIRECT TRANSFER.

The rest of the procedure is the same as in DIRECT TRANSFER, begin with step 3