

# MANUAL T-SHIRT PRINTER

## How to print a T-SHIRT

This printer is direct-to-garment. You can print straight onto T-Shirts, hoodies, bags, etc.

The T-shirt printer is for cotton - natural fibers hold the ink best.

1. Turn on the printer - it may take some time to initialize.
2. Turn on the heat press using the switch on the back and let it warm up.

## Flatten / iron the t-shirt

The t-shirt needs to be totally flat, you can use the heat press to flatten it – place the t-shirt in the heat press as flat as possible and bring the handle down and let it sit for a couple seconds.

If printing a white t-shirt, your t-shirt is ready to print.

## Pre-treatment liquid [ only colored t-shirts ]

Pretreatment of the garment is necessary if printing on a dark or colored t-shirt

1. Turn on the pre-treatment machine
2. Pull out the shelf with the bottom handle and lay your garment flat on the pretreatment shelf
3. Select which nozzles to use with the touch screen or select a preset
4. Press green button to start
5. Affix the pre-treatment liquid with the heat press. Place the t-shirt in the heat press with a heat –resistant sheet between the t-shirt and the press
6. Press down the handle in 8 seconds - pause - and press down the handle for another 8 seconds.
7. Your t-shirt is ready to print

## **Loading a t-shirt**

1. Pick a glass platen and metal frame that covers the area you need, making sure that seams don't cross the edge of the frame. The print head will be moving across this top surface, so it needs to be totally flat.
2. Remove the metal frame and fit the platen into the slot [picture]
3. Lay your garment flat on the printing plate with the top of the print towards you [picture]
4. Lay the frame over the plate and make sure there is no loose fabric sticking up. Fabric should be firm and tight. You'll get an error message later if any parts are raised. Watch that the collar and seams are fully away from the print area [pic]

## **Setting the platen gap**

It is important that the print head is as close to the fabric as possible, to get the most exact print

1. Setting the platen gap is set under the platen
2. For t-shirts, the set height is 2
3. For thicker fabrics, move up in size

## **Sending a print job**

1. Your print design for the T-SHIRT printer is prepared in Illustrator or Photoshop.
2. Save your design as a PNG file.
3. Export the file through a USB stick to the desktop on the computer connected to the T-SHIRT printer
4. Open Garment Creator on the computer. [The software that supports the T-SHIRT printer.]
5. Select File – New file
6. Drag in your file from the desktop to Garment Creator
7. Pick platen size [pic] [This step is important! Double check that the platen matches the one you chose!]
8. Select the fabric color [use "black" setting if you print on a black, dark or colored t-shirt, where white ink is necessary - printed in layer below]
9. If very strong colors use "Double strike"
10. Use "Layout" tab for placement on the garment

## 11. Print [bottom right]

The printer will prompt you to press the blue button to start. The first thing the printer will do is make sure the top surface is totally flat. If it detects any creases or wrinkles [it's very picky about this step] it will move the garment back out for you to fix it.

### **Post treatment - heat set**

To make the print seal the ink in the fabric, it needs to be heat set by the heat press.

1. Carefully place the printed t-shirt in the heat press with a heat –resistant sheet between the t-shirt and the press
2. Press down the handle and wait for the timer to run down. It will beep and the handle will automatically come back up.

Your t-shirt is completed.