

SCREEN PRINTING

Screen printing is a technique where ink is pressed through a screen. A stencil on the screen is used to block the ink and control the pattern on fabric. Six screens are used to allow up to six colors per design. The inks are layered on top of each other. Halftones can be used to simulate gradients.

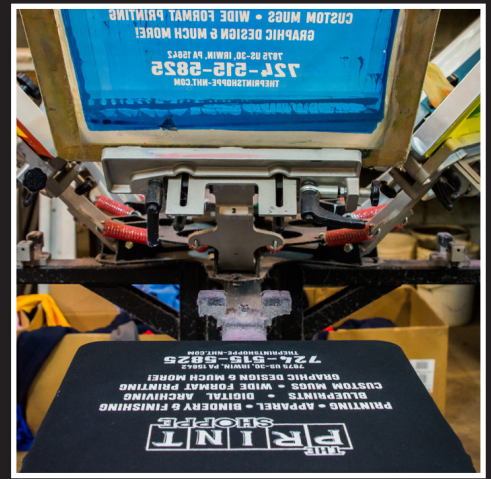
Screen printing is the preferred imaging method for orders of 24 or more as it can reduce costs and production time. T-shirts are the most popular item to screen print. However, screen printing is available for items that are able to lay flat and are heat-resistant for the curing process.

There are a wide variety of colored and specialty inks available for screen printing. Most Pantone colors can be specially mixed. Water-based inks can be used for a softer feel and a more vintage look. Full color images can be simulated using CMYK inks. There are also more exciting options in glitter inks, metallic inks, fluorescent inks.

Besides T-shirts, screen printing can be used successfully on other apparel or gifts such as towels or can koozies.

Both vector and pixel-based artwork work well for this method.

Screen printing has a few limitations. It is most appropriate on larger orders all using the same artwork. The artwork will need to be the same size on the smallest and largest size shirts if you are looking to keep your costs down. Designs are limited to 6 colors. Standard Platisol inks may layer up making the shirt less soft and flexible.



**PRESS USED TO FORCE INK
THROUGH SCREEN TO ON
TO DESIRED SURFACE.**

