



Graphic Specialties, Inc.

Foil Stamping

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Equipment:

| | Max Sheet | Min Sheet |
|-------------------|-----------|--------------|
| SBL | 29" X 41" | 16" x 22" |
| Thompson Saroglia | 22" x 29" | 8 1/2" x 11" |
| (2) Kluge EHD | 14" x 22" | 4" x 4" |

Specifications:

Presses that accommodate : 4" x 4" to 29" x 41"

Tips and Information:

- Foil is very economical when planned correctly. A slight change can save an additional run through the press or eliminate the amount of foil used to produce a job. Foil can be very competitive in cost when compared to colored ink and provide much more richness and saturation.
- Foil stamping can be either flat stamped (foil on a flat sheet) or foil embossed (raising or embossing an image with the addition of a foil).
- Smooth papers are the best for reflecting the qualities of foil, cast coated paper is optimum. Recycled stocks should be avoided.
- Avoid heavily inked or heavily coated sheets which are not porous enough for the foil to adhere properly. Plastic coatings and varnishes can prevent good foil transfer to the paper causing blisters. Wax-free formulations of ink and varnishes are recommended. Do not use rubber based inks. When foil stamping in conjunction with UV coating, it is best to foil first and UV coat over the foil.
- Foil over ink, and ink over foil requires close communication with your finisher.
- Allow the printed sheet to dry two to three days before stamping. Darker inks require four to five days of curing time.
- When intricate foiled detail is designed into a project, make sure the spacing between the lines is no less than half the thickness of the stock. Larger text sizes work better than the smaller, since foil likes to fill or "Bridge" across narrow spaces, especially with softer finish papers. When combining large solid areas with fine intricate areas, it may be necessary to foil in two passes.
- When foil stamping products for future use in laser printers, do a test of your product in the actual laser printer that is to be used. Not all foil can be successfully run through a laser printer.
- Since many pigment, pastel tint and pearl foils are translucent, their color can be changed by the color of the underlying stock, especially darker stock.
- Art Preparation: High contrast black and white type and/or art. Provide a negative to size to create a foil-stamping die.
- Jobs must be clearly marked for gripper and side guide.

Terms:

Foil:

General term for foil-leaf stamping material consisting of a carrier, usually polyester film coated with a release agent, a color coat, a metal coat, and an adhesive coat.

Dusted Foils:

Foil utilizing a bronze powder on the mylar carrier. Easily applied, but also easily rubbed off without an overcoating. Limited colors are available.

Gloss Foils:

Clear transparent foils glossy in appearance.

Metallic Foils:

Metallized aluminum foils available in many colors and either shiny or satin finish. Most often used are gold, silver, and copper.

Patterned Foils:

Foils manufactured with specific patterns rather than flat color. These range from woodgrains or marbles to the newer 3-D holographic patterns or images. Wide variety of designs available.

Pearlescent Foils:

Similar to gloss foils, but having a translucent color. Choice of colors is limited. Best used with embossing, but can be flat stamped.

Pigment Foils:

Opaque foils of intense color, resembling glossy enamel foils. Available in either gloss or matte finish.

Tint/Pastel Foils:

Flat or dull translucent stamping foil. Can be applied in varying degrees of color density by changing the press temperature when stamping. Choice of colors is limited. Excellent highlight to enhance embossing.

Refractive Engraving:

A technique that gives an etched feel that adds texture and dimension.

Foil Over Foil:

Adds special color options through an additional pass.

Foil Embossing:

Raising the image and applying foil at the same time with one press run, as with a combination or foil embossing die. This process can also be done flat stamped and register embossed (Stamp and Bump).

Stamp and Bump:

First pass of flat stamping and then second pass of embossing or debossing using only one embossing die.