

DuPont Packaging Graphics

Cyrel® Flexogram

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Cleaning/Wiping Cyrel® Printing Plates Prior to Inking

It is highly recommended to clean all Cyrel® printing plates prior to inking. This pertains to both proofing inks as well as printing inks. This once-over wiping of the plate removes any debris or third party contaminants that may influence ink transfer. **This procedure is essential for all solvent and Cyrel®FAST processed plates prior to printing, especially with UV curable inks.**

- In most cases, 100% alcohol (propanol or ethanol) is sufficient to remove surface contaminants, but a more aggressive blend, such as 90/10 propyl alcohol/propyl acetate, can also be used.
- All blends used for wiping should be compatible with the plate (check compatibility guide). Unfortunately there are too many solutions in the marketplace that are overly aggressive.
- All third party cleaners should contain no oils. If it feels oily to the touch, it probably isn't the best to use. Keep in mind that an oil, or other petroleum surfactants, leads to over-impresion on press.

Wiping or cleaning your plates prior to inking removes:

- Lint or fibers left behind from thermal processing
- Dust and debris in the air or environment
- Oil and grease due to handling
- Remains from plate storage
- Ink or other artifacts from previously run plates
- Plate cleaners, anti-static sprays, lubricated press wipes or hand lotions
- Other 3rd party contaminants

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