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## **iColor® 2-Step Premium STRETCH Transfer Media Instructions** **Part # ICHTSTRETCH (A4) / ICHTSTRETCHTAB (A3)**

Temperature	Time	Paper Setting	Pressure
285°F / 140°C	45 Seconds	iColor 500/600: Ultra Heavy iColor 550: Coated Glossy	8

The **iColor® 2-Step Premium Stretch Transfer Media** set will allow you to transfer prints from the **iColor®** series of printers (including white and fluorescent color prints) onto a variety of garments, especially dark fabrics and allow for extra elasticity on stretchy fabrics. A common problem in the industry is the stretchable limit of certain transfer papers. This new stretch product will give you added confidence in the ruggedness of your design and finished product. Added rasterization or breathability in your design, as well as using the garment color as a mask, will also add to the stretch limits. The white adhesive applied as a result of the 2-step process enhances the color of your print, and increases the adhesion to your garment for maximum durability, opacity and vibrancy on your finished product. The **iColor® 2-Step Premium Series Transfer Media** is considered the best choice of media when the softest possible hand is required. This media is also brighter than any other media on the market today and has the best color reproduction, especially when printing red.

Similar to the **iColor® 2-Step Premium Transfer Media**, the **iColor® 2-Step Premium Stretch Transfer Media** has added elastic in the adhesive to allow for stretching, while maintaining its original shape. Print and press onto cotton, as well as many types of synthetic material such as nylon, polyester and poly-cotton blends without the risk of scorching or melting the fabric. Save time, money, and space. No need to purchase a second heat press when using the **iColor® Premium Stretch Transfer Media** system. The first and second presses share the same temperature, pressure and press duration so you don't have to wait for the press to change temperature.

The **iColor® 2-Step Premium Stretch Transfer Media** is a weed-free system, ensuring your time is not wasted picking and weeding your transfer prints, enabling you to produce detailed, quality images while dramatically reducing your production time.

Wash-tested up to 100 washes at 104°F / 40°C, your images will remain durable, vibrant and stretchable!

Designed to work with the **iColor®** series of specialty printers, the **iColor® 2-Step Premium Stretch Transfer Media** will also work with many popular color laser printers – please check with your printer manufacturer to be certain. White toner enabled printers are suggested for best results.

The **iColor® 2-Step Premium Stretch Transfer Media** is used as a set, comprising of a 'Transfer Sheet' and an 'Adhesive Sheet'. Please follow the steps below for best results:

1. Place transfer sheet into the appropriate tray of the **iColor®** printer, print side up or down depending on your model (the coated, brighter white, slicker side is the print side). You may need to stack a few sheets in the tray at once so the printer pulls the media cleanly if using the multipurpose tray.

**Note: NEVER run the adhesive sheet through your printer. This will result in fuser failure.**

2. Paper type should be 'Ultra Heavy' if printing from the iColor® 500/600 and 'Coated Glossy' if printing from the iColor® 550. Page size should be either 'A4' or 'A3', depending on the stock being used. Remember to set the job to mirror print to ensure it looks correct when transferred to the garment. Use the iColor® TransferRIP or ProRIP Software for the required amount of white overprint. A white spot coverage (white overprint) of 150% - 200% is suggested. Select 2 - 3 pixel underfilling for best results.
3. Print the image.
4. Once image is printed, place the adhesive sheet on top of the print, white (adhesive coated) side down - the image and the adhesive should be face-to-face.
5. Run the two sheets together through a laminator on a medium-high heat setting prior to pressing - this will ensure all air bubbles are removed and all adhesive is transferred during the pressing process. Do not use a carrier sleeve, run the paper directly through. Pull the edges of the papers outward and keep them taut as you feed them into the laminator to prevent any air from getting in between the sheets. If the sheet is buckling through the laminator, you may have a humidity issue. Refer to the tech tips below for advice on how to deal with this.
6. Preheat the press to 285°F / 140°C and keep the press closed for at least 30 seconds before proceeding to heat up the lower platen. This step is extremely important to ensure a good bond during the marrying process.
7. Place the transfer/adhesive page on the press 'adhesive side up'. Fold a small corner of the adhesive sheet over, prior to pressing - this will make it easier to peel apart after pressing. Cover the media with a Teflon sheet and press the two sheets together using a heat press at 285°F / 140°C for 45 seconds with medium-high pressure.
8. Open the press and while hot - immediately peel the adhesive sheet away from the transfer sheet diagonally in one smooth, low, continuous motion. This should be done with the sheets on the press to minimize heat loss. The use of heat resistant gloves may help this process.
9. Observe the used adhesive sheet – you will see the adhesive was removed only where toner was present on the transfer sheet. If you see any part of your design on the adhesive sheet, you did not get a clean pull. Examine your transfer sheet to determine if the transfer is acceptable. Discard the used adhesive sheet.
10. Trim the edges away from the transfer sheet - this will ensure no excess adhesive sticks to the garment and eliminate the chance of a white box around your design.
11. Place your garment on the press. Position the transfer sheet (print side down) onto the garment. It is suggested that you use heat resistant tape to secure the sheet to the garment. Otherwise, opening the press can cause the transfer sheet to lift prematurely. For more precise placement, lay the garment out on a table, position the transfer sheet appropriately and tape the corners before placement on the press.
12. Cover the transfer sheet and garment with kraft paper or a Teflon sheet and press the garment using a heat press at 285°F / 140°C for 10 seconds with medium-high pressure.
13. Remove the garment from the heat press carefully and immediately lay flat. Allow it to cool for at least 5 minutes.
14. Once the garment is completely cooled, carefully peel away the transfer sheet in one smooth, low, continuous motion. Removal while still warm could lead to an incomplete or faulty transfer. It is suggested that you start your pull from an area that has the most toner coverage. The image will adhere to the garment. Do not wait too long for this step (under one hour).
15. Re-Pressing (fixing) the image into the garment is important for wash durability. It is best to re-press the image for roughly 20 seconds at 285°F / 140°C with kraft paper on top of the image.
16. Wait a few seconds before removing the kraft paper. Pull slowly in one smooth, continuous motion. It is important to wait before pulling the paper off, otherwise it could pull the design off the shirt! While the garment is still on the press and still hot, lightly stretch the material to allow the toner to soak into the fabric to prevent cracking