

How to Make a Custom Screen:



1. Design: Draw, trace or print your design onto the textured, 'print side' of a transparency using a black paint marker, ink jet or laser printer. Choose the **darkest** black ink possible. NOTE...Sharpies are not dark black enough.



2. Expose: In a dark room, w only the yellow safe bulb on to see, place the orange film (exposure side up) onto a black sheet or board. Next, place the printed/ textured side of the transparency on top of the film. Lastly, add a clear sheet or plexi on top.



3. Soak: Using the black, SmallDogPrints developing box, soak 10 minutes in lukewarm water. Still in a dark room, gently sponge &/or spray to develop your custom screen.

Place under the **30W UV LED Blacklight**. Make sure there are no windows or light coming in. **Expose 1 min. from 12" away.**



4. Dry screen by blotting with paper towels. Place screen (dark orange side facing up) back under the light about 1 min. to cure. Continue to allow screen to dry until it feels like a piece of paper. Reposition often so it doesn't dry to work surface.



5. Print.



6. Create!



QR code for printing "hacks" and tips.

What is happening?

The black ink printed on the transparency "protects" these areas of the orange film and prevents these areas from hardening under the light. These areas will be water-soluble & will become the "open design areas" of your custom screen. Conversely, the areas of the orange film that are NOT being protected by black ink will harden & will not wash out when developing your screen.

TIP . . . Think of the black ink on your transparency as acting somewhat like sunscreen. This is why it is important to have the highest quality, **darkest** black ink printed on your transparency.

TIP . . . Always keep transparencies dry. They can be used again later to make additional screens.

CARE . . . Wash screens promptly after printing. Do not let ink, underglaze, paint, etc. dry in screens. Dry your screen dark orange side facing up on a FLAT surface. While drying, reposition your screen often so it doesn't stick & dry to your work surface.