

T-LOCK PLATEN KIT INSTRUCTIONS

INTRODUCTION

As Brother® GT-541, GT-782 and GT-3 users become more familiar with their GT Printers, the need will grow to be able to print on more locations than the front and back of a garment. That is where the T-Lock Platen Kit comes in. This aftermarket platen kit works using the same four pin platen setup as the GT-541, GT-782 & GT-3 printers. With over 10 standard platen setups offered with the T-Lock Platen Complete Kit, GT users will be able to quickly switch from printing on short sleeves, long sleeves, hoodies with zippers, baby garments and other items.

The following PDF file contains all the information on how to install, setup the artwork and print using the different platen inserts. Please refer to these instructions when using the T-Lock Platen Kit.

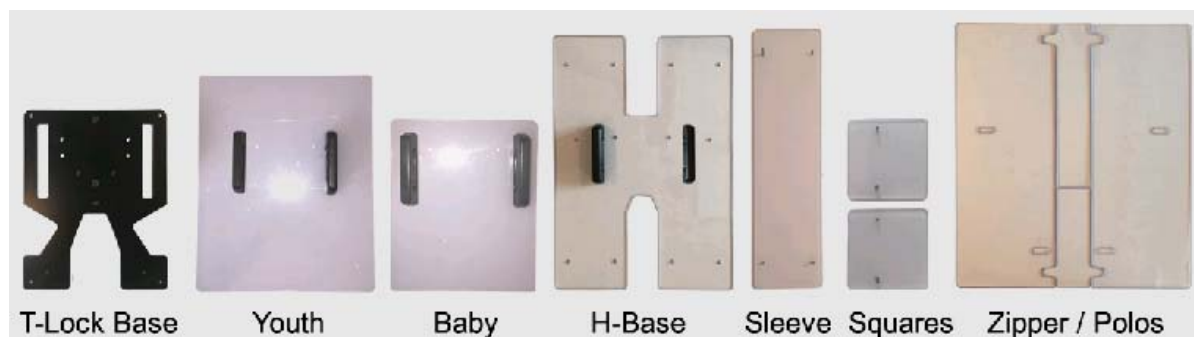
The T-Lock Platen Complete Kit contains the following items:

- 1) T-Lock Base with Metal Pins
- 2) Youth Platen Insert (10.5" x 12.75")
- 3) Baby Platen Insert (6.5" x 7.25")
- 4) H-Base Insert
- 5) Two Square Platen Inserts (4.5" x 4.5")
- 6) Long Sleeve Platen Insert (3.75" x 12.5")
- 7) Two Zipper Platen Inserts (6.0" x 16.0")
- 8) Small Polo Platen Insert (2.0" x 6.0")
- 9) Large Polo Platen Insert (2.0" x 10")
- 10) Platen Accessory Kit (Wing Nuts, & Zipper Platen Bolts)
- 11) T-Lock Brackets with Screws

UNPACKING THE T-LOCK PLATEN

The T-Lock Kit comes packed in a 16" x 16" x 3" size box. To unpack the T-Lock Kit, carefully use a box cutter to cut the open the top of the box. Do not cut too deep into the top of the box or you may scratch the top of some platen inserts.

Open the box and remove the packaging foam bag. Unpack all the items and make sure they are all accounted for. If any items are missing, please contact the company that you purchased the T-Lock Platen Kit from.



The following items are optional items that require an additional purchase.

Cap Platen Insert

Part #TLOCK-CAPI
(Printing crown and bill on most types of caps)



Oversized Insert

Part #TLOCK-OPI
(16" x 18" extra large; not for GT-541 printer)



Wrap Around Insert

Part #TLOCK-WAPI
(Printing from front, on side, & on to the back)



Shoulder Insert

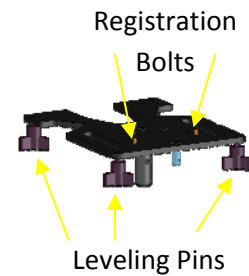
Part #TLOCK-SHLD
(Print on front and off the shoulder)



ASSEMBLYING THE T-LOCK PLATEN KIT

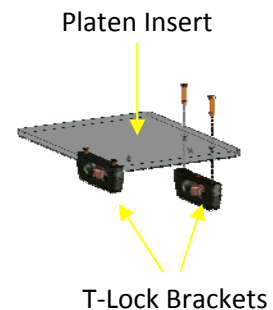
In order to save space on the box size for shipping, some components will need to be assembled. Here are the instructions for assembling the T-Lock Base:

1. Locate the T-Lock Base, the Leveling Pins and Registration Bolts.
2. Flip the T-Lock Base over so the Metal Pins are facing up. Using a screw driver (not included) make sure that only half of the Registration Bolts are sticking out the top of the T-Lock Base.
3. Locate the four (4) Leveling Pins and the four tapped holes on the corners of the T-Lock Base.
4. Screw in the Leveling Pins from the bottom of the T-Lock Base but do not allow them to extend out the top of the T-Lock Base. They should only extend through the top of the T-Lock Base if you need to level the platen inserts with the bottom of the Brother DTG print heads.



Here are the instructions for assembling the Platen Inserts:

1. Locate the Youth Insert, Baby Insert, H-Base Insert, T-Lock Brackets and screws.
2. Hold one of the platen insert with the counter sunk holes facing up.
3. Place a T-Lock Bracket below the platen insert and align it with the counter sunk holes.
4. Using the included screws, use a screw driver (not included) to attach the T-Lock Bracket to the platen insert.
5. Repeat the process for the other two platen inserts.



DOWNLOADING THE PLATEN TEMPLATES

When printing with the T-Lock Platen and all the different platen inserts, you will want to make sure that you are using the correct artwork template size. In order to know where to place the artwork in the correct location to match up with the following platen inserts, we recommend that you use one of the T-Lock Platen Templates.

- Square Inserts
- Long Sleeve Insert
- Zipper Inserts
- Large & Small Polo Inserts
- Cap Insert
- Wrap Around Insert
- Shoulder Platen Insert

These templates are layered PSD, CDR and PNG files that allow you to see exactly where your artwork needs to go. The PSD and CDR files contain layers for each platen insert and a layer where you can import your artwork into. By doing it this way, only the visible part of the artwork on your monitor will print out.

You can download these templates from clicking on the link below:

[Download the T-Lock Platen Templates](#)

You will need to complete the fields for your name and email address before clicking the submit button.

Your name:	<input type="text"/>
Email address:	<input type="text"/>
Address:	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>
City:	<input type="text"/>
State:	<input type="text"/>
ZIP / Post code:	<input type="text"/>
Country:	--Please Select-- <input type="button" value="v"/>
	<input type="button" value="Submit"/>

Check your email (and or Spam Inbox if necessary) for an email from GarmentTools.com. In the email, there will be a unique hyperlink that will allow you to download the template files. Click on the hyperlink.

Hello Mark,

Thank you for registering for Touchdown Platen Artwork Templates.

Your email number is: f1305510384

You can download Touchdown Platen Artwork Templates for the next 72 hours.

Your personal download link is:
<http://garmenttools.com/dlg/download.php?r=f1305510384;p=3>

If you are interested in networking with other GT Users, visit www.GTPrinter.com.

Thank you for your support,

Best wishes,

DMS Team

A new internet browser window will open up and you will want to click on the download button to download the T-Lock Platen Artwork Templates. Save this ZIP file to your desktop of your computer.

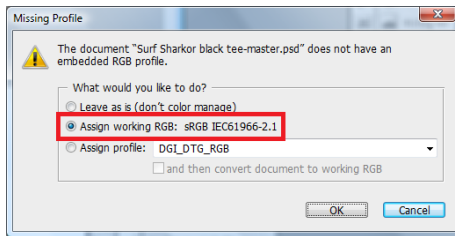


After you have downloaded the ZIP file, double click on the file and unzip the contents to a folder on your desktop. Open this new folder on your desktop and you will see the different sub folder for the artwork templates.

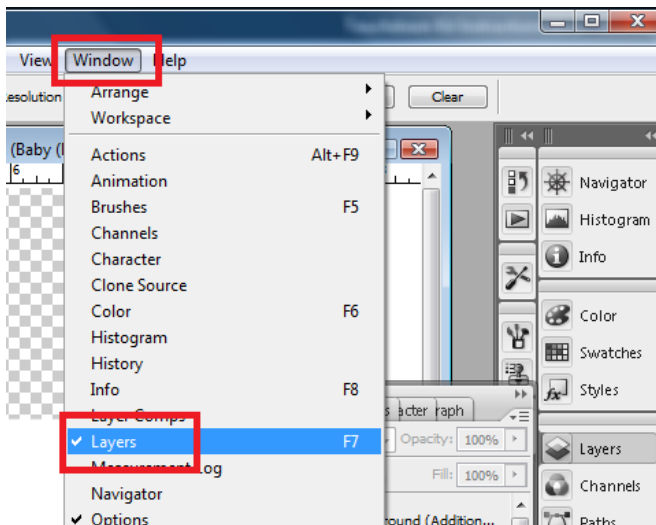
USING THE PHOTOSHOP PSD PLATEN TEMPLATE

After you have unzipped the artwork template folder, you will want to double click on the PSD file. Double click on the file to open it up in either Adobe® Photoshop® or Adobe® Photoshop Elements® that you are working with.

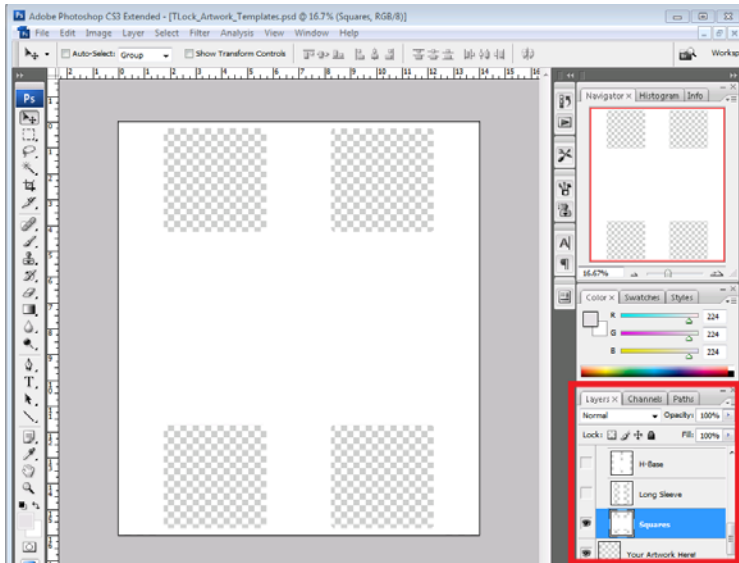
NOTE: Photoshop® may request whether you want to use one of three different color management options: 1) Leave as is, 2) Assign working RGB: sRGB or 3) Assign Profile. You will want to use the assigned working profile option since the Brother® GT print drivers are designed to work with artwork in the sRGB working space color model.



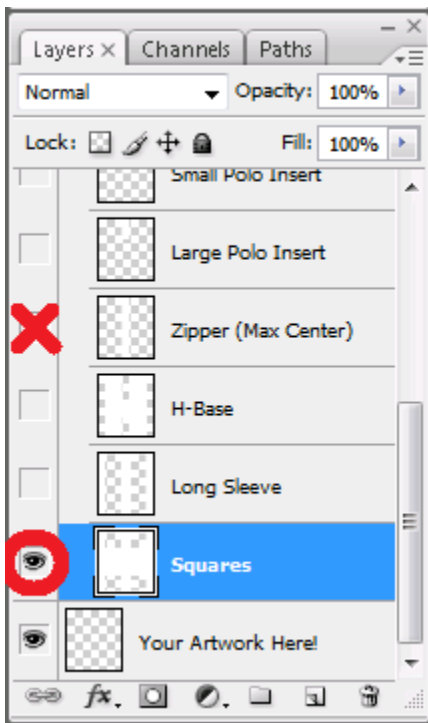
The artwork templates will show up in a layered file. If you layers window is not visible, click on Window menu at the top and select Layers. This will open the Layers window.



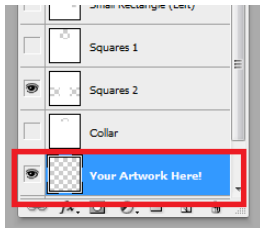
You will now be able to see all the layers for the different platen inserts. By clicking on the eyeball next to a specific layer, you can turn on and off that layer. You will also see the layer labeled “Your Artwork Here!”. This is the bottom layer and where you want your artwork placed into or below this layer.




Select the layer for the platen insert you are using by clicking on the eyeball next to it to make that layer visible. Make sure all the other layers do not have the eyeball visible. If they are visible, click on the eyeball to turn them off.

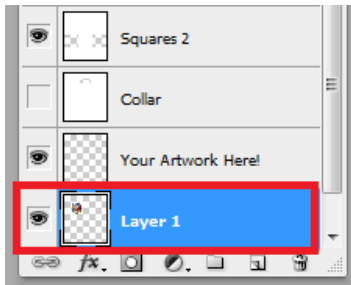


Next, select the layer labeled “Your Artwork Here!” and click on the eyeball to make the layer visible.

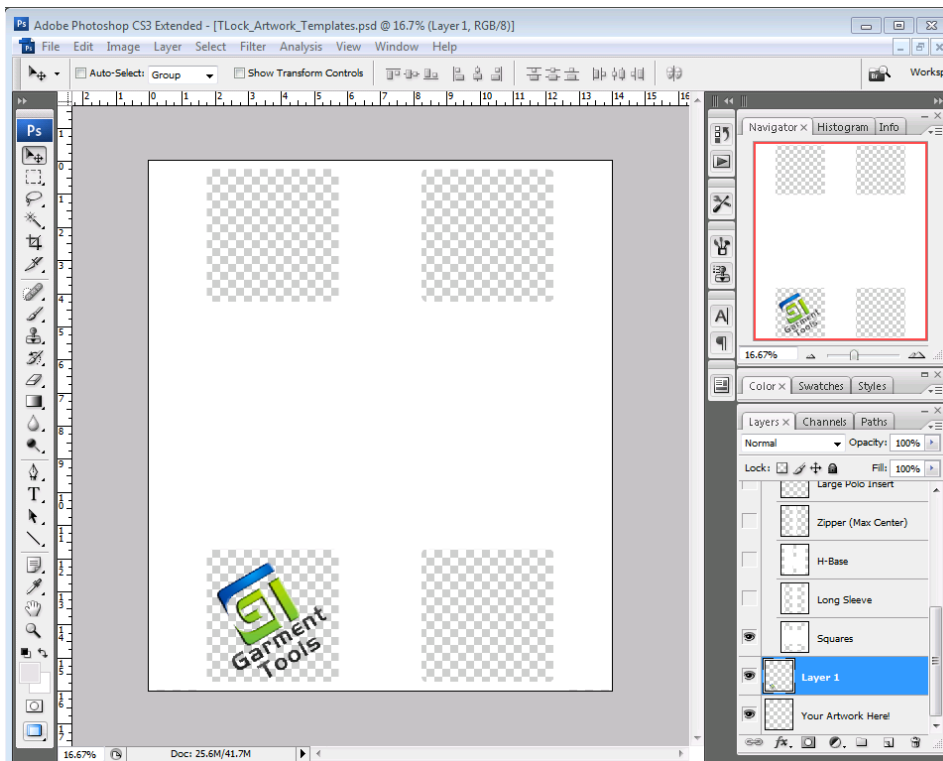


Open your artwork file in a smaller window in Photoshop®. Using the Move Tool (), left click and hold down on the left mouse button on the artwork file and drag-drop it into the template file.

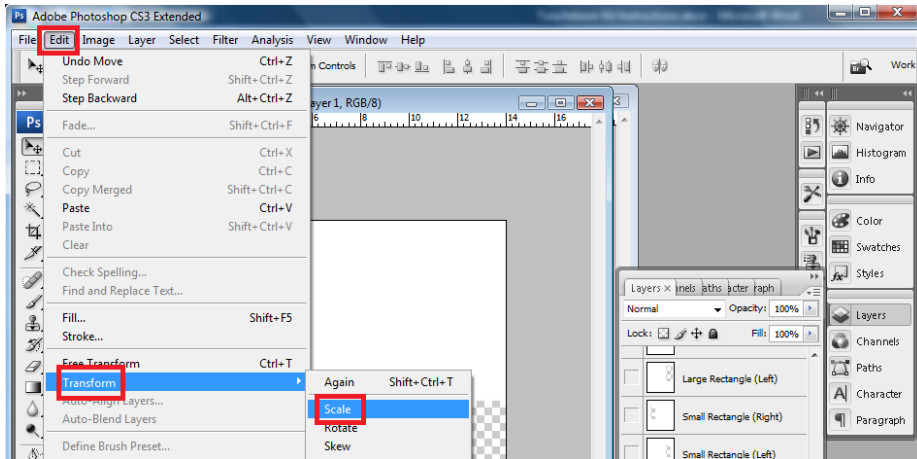
You will now see where a new layer has been created for the artwork that you just dropped in the template file. Move the layer below the Your Artwork Here! layer by left clicking and holding it down as you drag the file down.



Now in the artwork template file using the Move Tool, select the layer your artwork is in and move it into the correct place so the design is visible.



If you need to readjust the size of your design, click on the Edit Menu → choose the Transform option and select Scale.



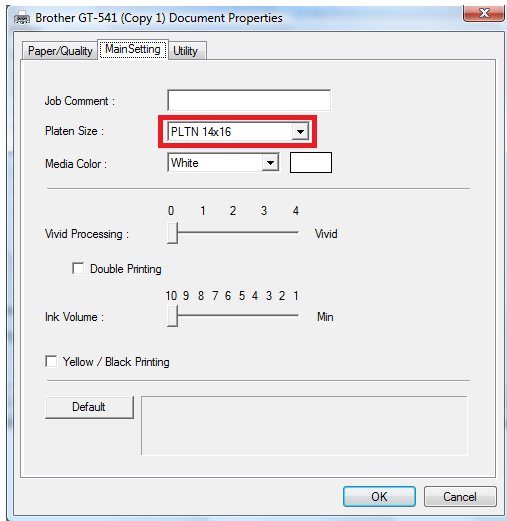
Using the corner nodes, adjust the size of the artwork to by holding down the Shift button and dragging the corner nodes till you have the correct side for the template you are using. Press the Enter button to save the changes.



If you are using a template that contains multiple platen inserts, you will need to duplicate the artwork. You can repeat the steps above or you can drag the artwork file in the Layers window down to the Create a New Layer icon. This will create a new layer of the same exact size of artwork. You can then use the Move Tool to position it in the correct place.



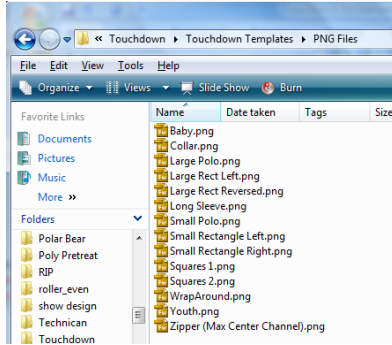
You are now ready to print the artwork using the Brother® GT print driver. You will want to use the 14" x 16" Platen option in the GT print driver.



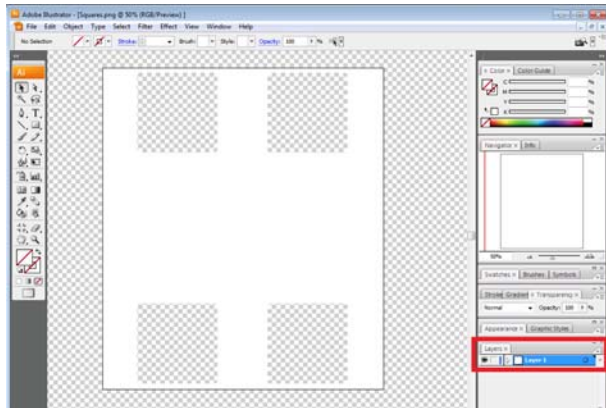
NOTE: For printing with CMYK+W option, you will need to turn off the layer for the platen insert that you are using and then flatten your file. This will allow you to change the white values from RGB 255,255,255 to 254,254,254.

USING THE PNG PLATEN TEMPLATE

For those GT Users that don't want to use the PSD or CDR template files, we have included separate PNG files that have a transparency in them. To use these PNG files, you will need to have a graphic software program that allows for layers. The zip file of the platen templates contains a folder labeled PNG. Inside that folder, you will see the following files.



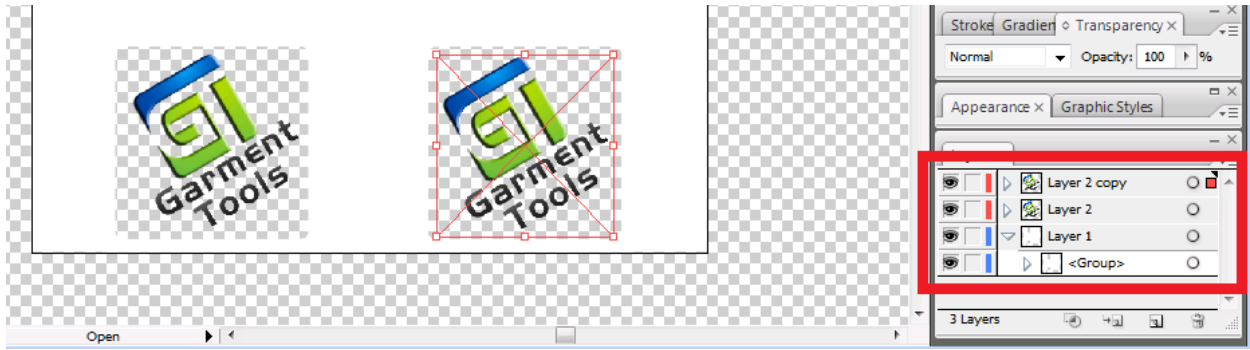
Open the PNG template file inside the graphic software program. Make sure you make a new layer to import the artwork file into it.



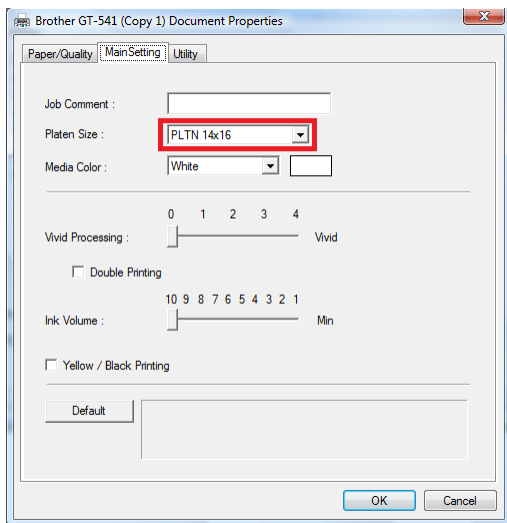
Then import or place your artwork in the new layer. Adjust the size and location of the artwork to fit inside the platen template.



If you are using a template that has multiple platen inserts, you will need to duplicate the artwork in your graphic software program and position it into the correct location.



You are now ready to print the artwork using the Brother® GT print driver. You will want to use the 14” x 16” Platen option in the GT print driver.



NOTE: For printing with CMYK+W option, you will need to turn off the layer for the platen insert that you are using and then flatten your file. This will allow you to change the white values from RGB 255,255,255 to 254,254,254.

INSTALLING THE T-LOCK BASE FIXTURE

To install the T-Lock Base fixture, you will first need to remove the platen that is currently on the GT printer. To do this, loosen the Platen Fixing Lever by turning it counter-clockwise. Then lift the platen off using two hands.



The T-Lock Base fixture will have the metal pins already assembled to it. Then flip the T-Base over and insert it on to the Brother® GT platen system just like you would do with a standard GT platen.



Once you secure the platen insert to the T-Base and loaded the garment on it, you will want to adjust the height of it using the GT Platen Height Adjustment Lever.



WORKING WITH THE YOUTH PLATEN INSERT

To install the Youth Insert, you will want to place the two T-Lock Brackets on the bottom side of the Youth Insert into the two slots on the T-Lock Base. The two Registration Bolts will slide into the two corresponding holes in the Youth Insert.



Then rotate the center pieces of the T-Lock Brackets to lock the Youth Insert into place.



When preparing the artwork for printing, use a 10" x 12" artwork template and the Youth Platen option in the appropriate Brother GT Driver.

NOTE: For printing with CMYK+W option, you will need to turn off the layer for the platen insert that you are using and then flatten your file. This will allow you to change the white values from RGB 255,255,255 to 254,254,254.

WORKING WITH THE BAY PLATEN INSERT

To install the Baby Insert, you will want to place the two T-Lock Brackets on the bottom side of the Youth Insert into the two slots on the T-Lock Base. The two Registration Bolts will slide into the two corresponding holes in the Youth Insert.



Then rotate the center pieces of the T-Lock Brackets to lock the Youth Insert into place.

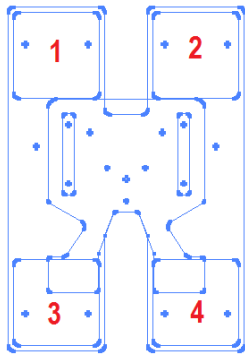


When preparing the artwork for printing, use a 7" x 8" artwork template and the Baby Platen option in the appropriate Brother GT Driver.

NOTE: For printing with CMYK+W option, you will need to turn off the layer for the platen insert that you are using and then flatten your file. This will allow you to change the white values from RGB 255,255,255 to 254,254,254.

WORKING WITH TWO SQUARE PLATEN INSERTS

To install both Square Platen Inserts, you will use the H-Base Insert that is provided in the T-Lock Kit. The Square Inserts can be installed in one of four locations.



For speed purposes, it is recommend to have the two Square Inserts on one side so that the Long Sleeve Insert can be installed on the other side of the H-Base Insert.

To install the two Square Inserts, drop the Square Insert into the holes of the H-Base Insert so that there is room around all sides of the Square Insert to put a clip or rubber band. There is only one correct way to install the Square Inserts on the H-Base Insert. There should be a small edge around the Square Insert on the three front sides.

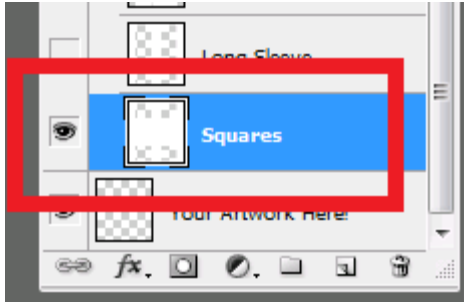


Then using the included wing nuts, tighten one wing nut for each Square Platen Insert from the bottom of the H-Base Insert on the threaded screw to keep the platens firmly in place.

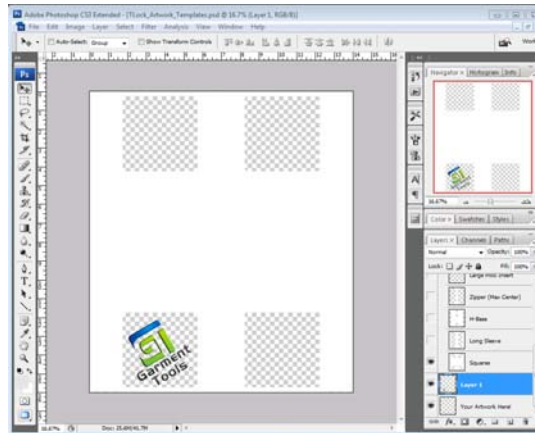
To secure the garment to the Long Sleeve Insert, the user can use one of the following options (none are included in the T-Lock Platen Kit):

1. Double sided platen tape (or commonly called carpet tape) on the platen insert
2. Rubber bands place on the front and back sides of the platen insert.
3. Use black binder clips on the sides and front of the platen insert.

Then use the artwork template download from website for your graphic software program, select the Squares layer as shown below.



Place artwork in the checkerboard area. →

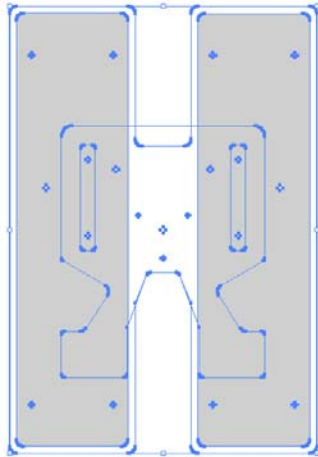


Once the artwork is positioned on the template file correctly, print using the 14" x 16" Adult Platen option in the Brother® GT driver.

NOTE: For printing with CMYK+W option, you will need to turn off the layer for the platen insert that you are using and then flatten your file. This will allow you to change the white values from RGB 255,255,255 to 254,254,254.

WORKING WITH LONG SLEEVE PLATEN INSERT

To install the Long Sleeve Platen Insert, you will use the H-Base Insert that is provide in the T-Lock Kit. The Long Sleeve Insert can be installed in one of two locations.



For speed purposes, it is recommend to have the Long Sleeve Insert on one side so that the two Square Inserts can be installed on the other side of the H-Base Insert.

To install the Long Sleeve Inserts, drop the Long Sleeve Insert into the holes of the H-Base Insert so that there is room around all sides of the Square Insert to put a clip or rubber band.



Then using the included wing nuts, tighten the wing nuts from the bottom of the H-Base Insert on the threaded screws to keep the platens firmly in place.



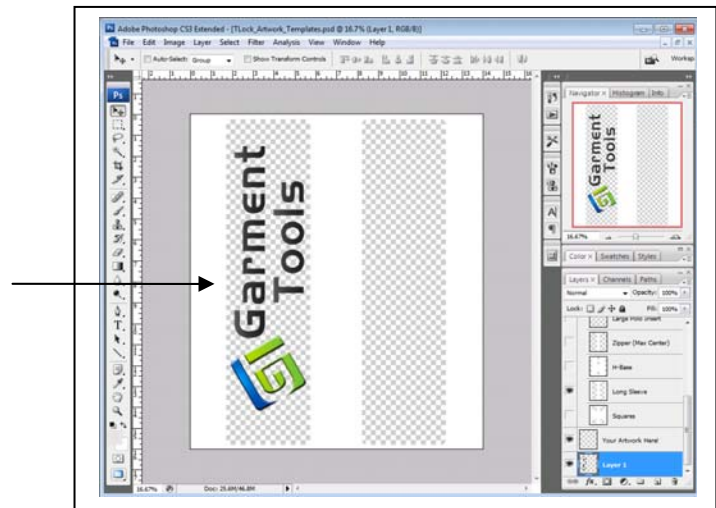
To secure the garment to the Long Sleeve Insert, the user can use one of the following options (none are included in the T-Lock Platen Kit):

4. Double sided platen tape (or commonly called carpet tape) on the platen insert
5. Rubber bands place on the front and back sides of the platen insert.
6. Use black binder clips on the sides and front of the platen insert.

Then use the artwork template download from website for your graphic software program, select the Long Sleeve layer as shown below.



Place artwork in the checkerboard area.

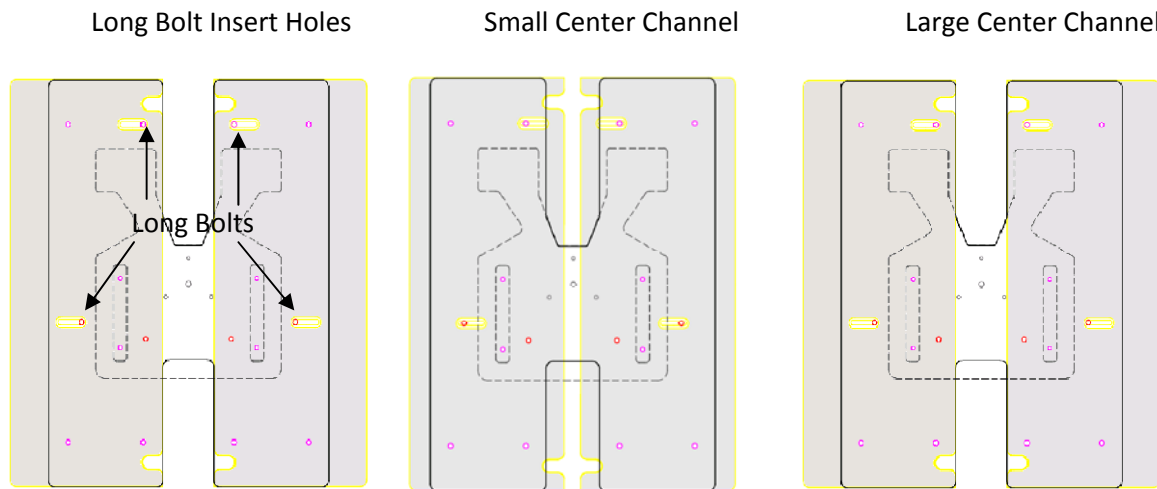


Once the artwork is positioned on the template file correctly, print using the 14" x 16" Adult Platen option in the Brother® GT driver.

NOTE: For printing with CMYK+W option, you will need to turn off the layer for the platen insert that you are using and then flatten your file. This will allow you to change the white values from RGB 255,255,255 to 254,254,254.

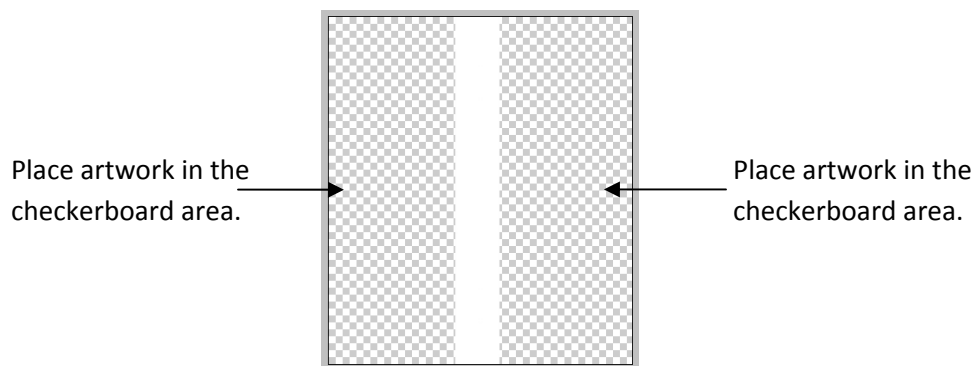
WORKING WITH THE ZIPPER PLATEN INSERTS

To install the Zipper Platen Inserts, you will use the Long Bolts that were included with the T-Lock Platen Kit and the H-Base Insert. Install the H-Base Insert on to the T-Lock Base. Place both Zipper Platen Inserts on each side of the H-Base Insert. Insert the Long Bolt through the bottom slots and the first hole on each side of the bottom of the H-Base before screwing on a wing nut for each piece. Then insert a Long Bolt through the middle slots and through the second set of holes on the sides of the H-Base Insert before attaching wing nuts to each bolt. The slots allow you to adjust the width of the center channel to different sizes depending on the garment features you are printing on (i.e. zipper, buttons,...).



Tighten the wing nuts to prevent the Zipper Platen inserts from moving.

Then use the artwork template for your graphic software program, select the Zipper layer as shown below.



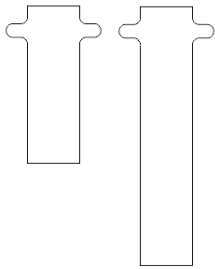
Once the artwork is positioned on the template file correctly, print using the 14" x 16" platen size in the Brother® GT driver.

NOTE: For printing with CMYK+W option, you will need to turn off the layer for the platen insert that you are using and then flatten your file. This will allow you to change the white values from RGB 255,255,255 to 254,254,254.

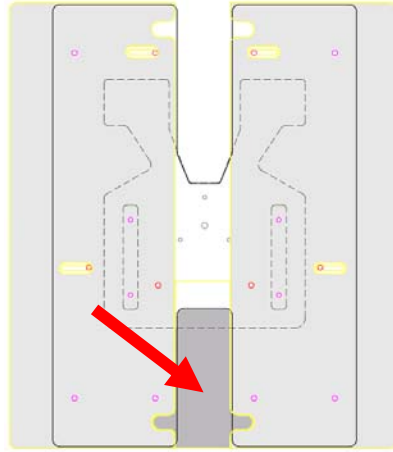
WORKING WITH THE POLO PLATEN INSERTS

To install either of the Polo Platen Inserts, you will need to have the Zipper Platen Inserts already mounted on the H-Base Insert. Then you will just need to drop in the appropriate Polo Insert you desire in between the two Zipper Platen Inserts. The tabs on the sides of the Polo Inserts will keep it in place when loading and unloading a garment.

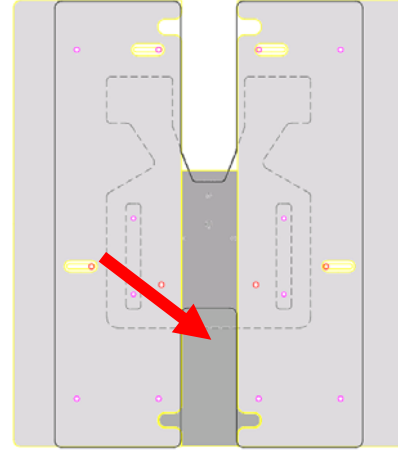
Small & Large Polo Inserts



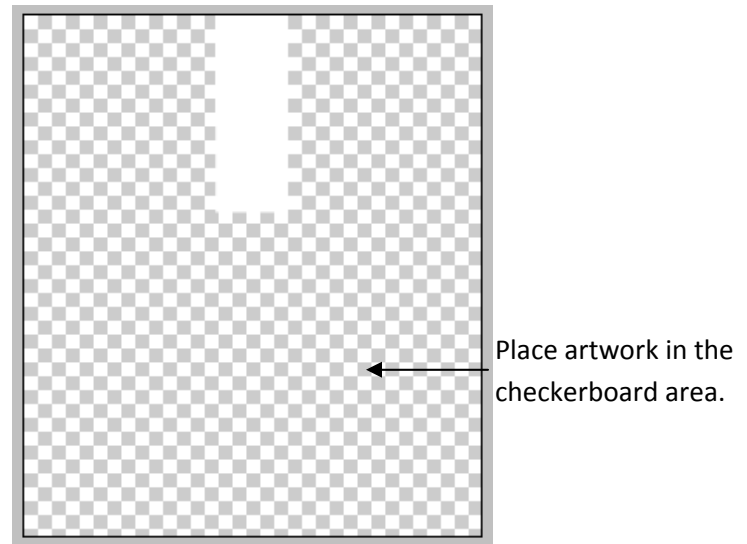
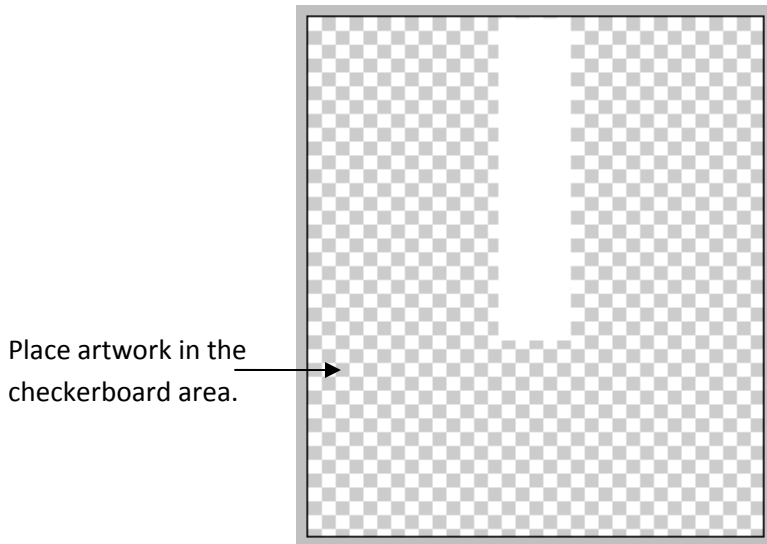
Small Polo Platen Insert



Large Polo Platen Inserts



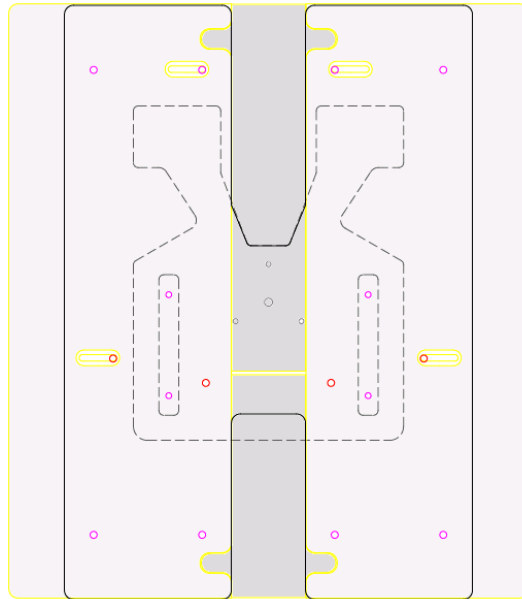
Then use the artwork template for your graphic software program, select either the Small Polo or Large Polo layer as shown below. NOTE: The white space is the area where there is no Polo Insert.



Once the artwork is positioned on the template file correctly, print using the 14" x 16" platen size in the Brother® GT driver.

NOTE: For printing with CMYK+W option, you will need to turn off the layer for the platen insert that you are using and then flatten your file. This will allow you to change the white values from RGB 255,255,255 to 254,254,254.

You can put both of the Polo Platen Inserts between the Zipper Platen Inserts at the same time to form a complete 14" x 16" platen.



WORKING WITH THE WRAP AROUND PLATEN INSERT

The Wrap Around Insert is a specialty platen that is designed to print on part of the front of the shirt, around the side and on part of the back of the shirt. This platen insert is sold separately from the T-Lock Platen Kit, but uses some of the same components.

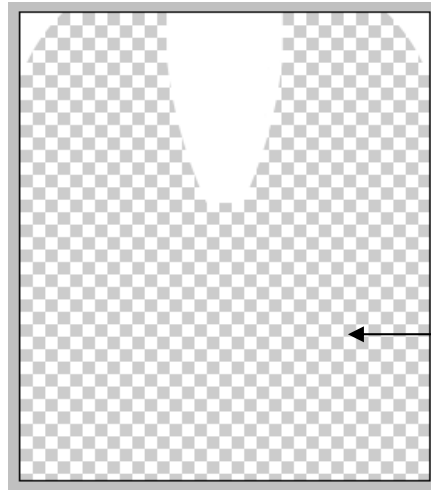
To assembly the Wrap Around Insert, install the T-Lock Brackets to the bottom side of the Wrap Around Insert using the included screws.



To install the Wrap Around Insert on the T-Lock Base, drop the T-Lock Brackets into the slots in the T-Lock Base. The Registration Bolts will slide into the pre-drilled holes in the Wrap Around Insert. Rotate the center piece in the T-Lock Brackets to secure it in place.



Then using the artwork template for your graphic software program, select Wrap Around layer as shown below.



Place artwork in the checkerboard area.

Once the artwork is positioned on the template file correctly, print using the 14" x 16" platen size in the Brother® GT driver.

NOTE: For printing with CMYK+W option, you will need to turn off the layer for the platen insert that you are using and then flatten your file. This will allow you to change the white values from RGB 255,255,255 to 254,254,254.

WORKING WITH THE OVERSIZED PLATEN INSERT

The Oversized Insert is a specialty platen that is designed to print on X-Large shirt. This platen insert is sold separately from the T-Lock Platen Kit, but uses some of the same components.

To assembly the Oversized Insert, install the T-Lock Brackets to the bottom side of the Oversized Insert using the included screws.



To install the Oversized Insert on the T-Lock Base, drop the T-Lock Brackets into the slots in the T-Lock Base. The Registration Bolts will slide into the pre-drilled holes in the Oversized Insert. Rotate the center piece in the T-Lock Brackets to secure it in place.



When preparing the artwork for printing, use a 16" x 18" artwork template and the Oversized Platen option in the appropriate Brother GT Driver.

NOTE: For printing with CMYK+W option, you will need to turn off the layer for the platen insert that you are using and then flatten your file. This will allow you to change the white values from RGB 255,255,255 to 254,254,254.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Below is a list of questions that are frequently asked about the T-Lock Platen Kit.

Q: What is the T-Base fixture made out of?

A: It is made out of .22 solid aluminum that is laser cut to specific measurements and then powder coated black.

Q: What are the platen inserts made out of?

A: The platen inserts are made out of .2 thickness polycarbonate material. We choose to use the polycarbonate material instead of acrylic because it is substantially stronger and less likely to break.

Q: What size are the wing nuts and bolts in case I lose them?

A: The nylon wing nuts are .4 mm size and should be found at most hardware stores. The four long bolts used with the Zipper Platen Inserts are M4 – 7mm thread x 20 mm long with a 3 hex to tighten or remove.

Q: What platen inserts are NOT included in the T-Lock Platen Kit?

A: The Oversized Insert, Wrap Around Insert and Shoulder Insert are not included in the T-Lock Platen Kit. All of these platen inserts are optional and can be purchased separately. Users can also purchase a second Long Sleeve Insert to print two long sleeves at the same time.

Q: Do I need any tools to assembly the T-Lock Platen?

A: The T-Base comes already assembled to the Mounting Plate and Pins. You will need a screw driver to attach the T-Lock Brackets to the different platen inserts. Other than that, all the other components can be attached or removed with using just your fingers.

Q: If the T-Base or any of the platen inserts are not level the bottom of my print heads, what do I do?

A: There are four (4) Leveling Pins on the bottom of the T-Lock Base that allow you to level the platen inserts to the bottom of the print heads. To adjust the Leveling Pins, rotate the Leveling Pins one at a time till the platen insert is level. The Leveling Pins will touch the platen inserts on the bottom side and allow you to make minor adjustments. Adjust one Leveling Pin at a time and then check to see if the platen is level.

Q: Does the platen inserts come with the platen fabric on them?

A: No, the platen inserts do not come with the platen fabric that is provided on the GT platens. You can purchase the platen fabric from your Brother® authorized distributor and cut them down to size if you want. You can also use double-sided carpet tape for the smaller platens that you would like assistance in holding the fabric or part of the garment in place.

Q: With the Long Sleeve Platen Insert, is it possible to thread the long sleeve on to the platen insert?

A: No, the Long Sleeve Platen Insert is designed to lay both sides of the garment on top of the platen insert. You cannot thread the long sleeve on to the platen insert because the pins used to secure and

adjust the height of the platen are in the center of the T-Lock Base and will prevent the long sleeve from sliding all the way on.

Q: What can I use to clean my platen inserts if ink gets on them?

A: You a mild mixture of soap and water on a soft towel to clean the platen inserts. Do not use any type of abrasive cleaners, abrasive pads or scraping tools. When cleaning them, hold the platen inserts by the sides and not by the pins as you could widening the taped holes that are holding the pins.

Q: Is the T-Lock Platen heavier than the GT platens?

A: The T-Lock Platen with the most amount of platen inserts on it weighs slightly heavier than the Adult 14" x 16" platen and weighs less than the Oversized 16" x 18" platen. So the weight of the T-Lock Platen is within the acceptable range of other platens made by Brother®.

Q: Do you have to do any type of modification to the Brother® GT printer that may affect the warranty of the printer?

A: No, there is no modification to the Brother® GT printers when using the T-Lock Platen. Thus, your warranty should not be affected.

Q: Where can I get custom platen inserts made to my specifications?

A: Contact the Brother distributor that you purchased the T-Lock Platen Kit from about getting custom platens made. Because the platen inserts are custom, the price is typically higher because they are not made in higher quantities. You can also get custom platens created locally by finding a plastic shop that uses a CNC machine. The hole locations are identified in the Artwork Templates.

Q: Can I use the T-Base fixture and create my own custom platens to my specifications?

A: Sure you can. You will want to make sure that you are using a flat piece of material that does not weigh any more than the two Zipper Platen Inserts.

Q: Can I purchase additional T-Lock Brackets?

A: Sure you can. Contact the Brother distributor that you purchased the T-Lock Platen Kit from about purchasing additional T-Lock Brackets.

Q: Are there any other ways to connect a custom platen to the T-Lock Platen Kit?

A: Yes. There are four pre-drilled holes in the T-Lock Base that can be used to hold a custom platen insert to the T-Lock Base.