

Laminated Inkjet Water-Slide Decal Paper

There are two types of Inkjet Water-Slide Decal Paper

Clear Inkjet Water-Slide Decal Paper gives a nearly transparent finished decal, which means that the colour and texture of the surface to which it is applied will be clearly visible through the finished decal. This decal is best for light coloured, unpatterned surfaces.

White Inkjet Water-Slide Decal Paper gives a white background to your printed design, obscuring the colour and texture of the surface to which it is applied. This decal is best for dark or highly coloured surfaces.

Inside your pack you will find 2 different kinds of paper – a laminating sheet and a printable decal sheet.

You will need: a laminating machine, a hairdryer, scissors or a craft knife, a bowl of water and a rubber scraper or a lint-free cloth

Instructions

Step 1 - Create your design

Edit the size and shape of the image you wish to transfer on your computer. Make sure that your image will fit onto your decal sheet and also onto the object you are transferring onto. Test the size and resolution of your image by printing onto plain paper first. You do not need to reverse your image.

Step 2 - Print your decal Place a sheet of decal paper into your printer feed tray, make sure it is straight and that you will be printing onto the glossy, coated side of the decal sheet. Set your print quality to 'Photo Quality' or similar, set the paper type to 'Glossy Photo Paper' or similar, select the correct paper size, then print.

Step 3 – Allow the ink to dry The printed decal sheet must be completely dry before going onto the next step. Leave it to dry for at least an hour or to speed up the process, heat gently with a hairdryer from a distance of at least 30cm.

Step 4 - Laminate your decal Preheat your laminator to High (140°C to 180°C). Place the laminating sheet on top of the decal sheet with the glossy side of the laminating sheet facing the printed side of the decal sheet. Laminate the two sheets together, then gently try to peel apart the two sheets at a corner, if they come apart easily, laminate them again at a higher temperature.

Step 5 - Cut out the decal Use a pair of scissors or a craft knife to cut out your image. If you have trouble seeing the edge of the image, hold it up to the window or a light. If you are using the white decal paper, any border you leave around your image will still be visible after the decal has been applied. If you are using clear decal paper, you can leave a small border because it will be transparent.

Step 6 - Remove the backing paper from the laminating sheet Place your cut out decal on a flat surface with the back of the laminating sheet facing up (your decal should be face up with the text right-reading). Wet the backing paper by dabbing over the whole of the surface with a damp cloth or sponge. Let the water soak in for about 30 seconds then try to slip off the damp backing paper. If it does not come off easily, wet it more and try again.

Gecko Paper

Step 7 - Prepare the decal Once you have removed the backing paper from the laminating sheet, place the decal into a bowl of lukewarm water and soak it for up to 30 seconds. When it is ready you should be able to feel the decal backing paper easily slipping from the decal transfer but don't remove the decal backing paper at this stage.

Step 8 - Apply the decal The surface you are applying your decal to should be clean and free from dust and oil. Wet the surface you are applying your decal to with water. Place the decal face up on your chosen surface. Carefully slip the decal until one edge protrudes over the backing paper. Gently press this edge into place on your project.

Step 9 - Slide out the backing paper Use one hand to hold the edge of the decal that is attached to the project in place with a gentle but firm grip. Use the other hand to carefully and slowly slide the backing paper out from underneath the decal, leaving the decal transfer to stick to the surface.

Step 10 - Remove water and air bubbles If the decal is not perfectly positioned, you can use gentle pressure to slide it into the correct position at this stage. Be careful because the wet decal is very fragile. Once the decal is correctly positioned, use a rubber scraper or a lintfree cloth to remove any water or air bubbles from under the decal. Use gentle pressure and work from the centre of the decal to the edges.

Step 11 - Allow your decal to dry Now leave your decal to dry. If you have removed all of the air bubbles and water from underneath the decal, it will harden as it dries, sticking firmly to your chosen surface. Your decal will take at least 3 hours to dry; if it is cold, we recommend heating the decal with a hairdryer until it is dry to the touch before leaving it to dry further.

Additional Information

- Your decal will continue to harden over time but it will initially be vulnerable to scratching.
- This decal should not be placed where it can make contact with foods or beverages; it could be used to decorate the outside of a mug for instance but should not be used on the rim or interior of the mug.
- Do not soak the finished project for a long time or place it in very hot water because this can cause the decal to soften.
- Do not expose the decal to volatile thinners such as MEK, Xylon, acetone, alcohol etc

Washing Instructions

To prolong the life of the decal we recommend hand washing your finished project with a soft sponge or cloth and normal washing up liquid or detergents. We do not recommend using scouring pads or metallic scrapers on the decal or putting your finished project in the dishwasher.