

# ADVICE ON APPLICATION



ADVICE ON APPLICATION OF  
HOT SCREEN HEAT TRANSFERS





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# INTRODUCTION

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**Using our heat transfers is simple. Most often, they works with the standard settings indicated for the different heat transfer products (page 4).**

However, some garments require a different treatment during application, and they’re the ones we’ll be focusing on in this guide. Keep in mind that you should always run a test application on new garments that you haven’t used before. This allows you to assess early on whether a different technique is required to achieve a good result.

If you run into any problems, we can always help you by testing the suitability of the garment and recommending application settings. Additionally, most garment manufacturers can provide helpful advice on their garments. Unfortunately, there are also garments that are not suitable for heat transfer application.

In this guide, we’ll provide a list of specific garments that we know require different techniques. We’ll also include details on what we’ve found to work best on those types of garments.

# TEST THE GARMENT'S **SUITABILITY** FOR HEAT TRANSFERS

## HOW DO I KNOW IF I CAN USE A HEAT TRANSFER ON MY GARMENT?

When using a new garment that you have no prior experience with, it can be difficult to know whether or not it is suitable for heat transfer application. Because there's a huge variety of materials on the market, there's no single guide on which exact materials work, but contacting the garment manufacturer is always a good place to start.

If you're unable to obtain the information you need from your supplier, we can help you to test the material through wash tests. We apply the desired heat transfer onto the garment in our test lab and subsequently wash and dry it according to the garment's instructions. We then deliver a report containing the washing and drying results along with an assessment of the garment's suitability for a heat transfer.

Experience has taught us that a correctly performed test with a lot of wash cycles is the only method that's **100%** certain to determine whether or not our heat transfers work on a certain type of material.

Contact our sales support to arrange a test of your garments or textiles and they'll take care of it.

### CONTACT SALES SUPPORT FOR HELP



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info@hotscreen.se





# RECOMMENDED SETTINGS

## BEFORE YOU START

Recommendations for workflow prior to commencing the application of large quantities of heat transfers

1. Pack up and sort out the garments by type.
2. Decide where you want to put the transfer on the garment.
3. Prepare the place where you'll be putting the garment after application to make it easier to pack the garments.
4. Calibrate the laser or create a template with the desired measurements for correct placement every time.
5. Pre-heat the bottom plate for 15-20 seconds to ensure a uniform result with every heat transfer application.
6. Try it out! Check that your workflow functions properly, that the settings on the heat press are optimised, and that your processed garments look the way you want them to.
7. **Produce.**
8. Start preparing the next garment as soon as you've lowered the heating iron. Once the application is finished and the heating iron is lifted, you're ready to start the application on the next garment. This results in a highly efficient workflow!

## PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS



- Application temp.\***  
160°C
- Application pressure\***  
2-6 bar
- Application time\***  
15 seconds
- Remove the plastic carrier**  
Hot / Cold peel



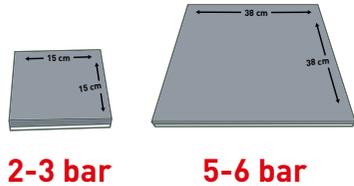
- Application temp.\***  
130°C
- Application pressure\***  
2-6 bar
- Application time\***  
15 seconds
- Remove the plastic carrier**  
Hot / Cold peel



- Application temp.\***  
160°C
- Application pressure\***  
2-6 bar
- Application time\***  
15 seconds
- Remove the plastic carrier**  
Cold peel

*All values are recommendations for our own heat presses, Hot 2000 & Hot 4000.*

# GENERAL APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS



## 1 PREPARATION

Make sure you enter the correct settings on your heat press before you start.

See the instructions on the previous page for the recommended settings for your product. Adjust the pressure on the machine based on the size of the bottom plate you're using. We recommend a pressure of **2-3 bar** for a small bottom plate and **5-6 bar** for a large bottom plate.

## 2 PREHEATING GARMENTS

Make sure the garment is laid out straightly & smoothly and that no seams, zips or buttons are in the way. The entire surface touching the base plate has to be placed smoothly to ensure the best result.

We recommend preheating the garment for at least **5 seconds** before the heat transfer is applied. Preheating makes the garment shrink, giving you a good surface that the heat transfer can stick to properly.



## 3 HEAT TRANSFER APPLICATION

Place the heat transfer on the garment and begin application. Our heat presses automatically end the application when the set time ends.

*NOTE! On some heat presses, the application may need to be stopped manually.*

## 4 REMOVE THE PLASTIC CARRIER

Remove the plastic carrier after application is completed. When using STARK & FLEX Heat Transfer, the plastic carrier can be removed while it's still warm.

When using REFLEX Heat Transfer, the plastic carrier should only be removed once it's **cold**.



## INSTRUCTIONS - GORE-TEX GARMENTS

### BACKGROUND

Pre-shrink the garment at **160°C** or **130°C** depending on the chosen product you are applying. To do this, press the heating plate directly onto the garment for 8-10 seconds. This shrinks and stabilises the garment ahead of the heat transfer application, creating the optimal conditions for a correctly performed application.

Other similar types of synthetic materials also shrink to varying degrees from the heat during application.

*NOTE! Heat transfer application onto Gore-Tex garments that haven't been pre-shrunk can give poor results and, in the worst case, a ruined garment.*

### WHAT TO DO

1. Pre-shrink the garment for 8-10 seconds at 160°C or 130°C, depending on your chosen product
2. Place your heat transfer on the part of the garment where it is to be applied
3. Make sure that your heat press settings are correct according to the application instructions
4. Begin the heat transfer application
5. Remove the plastic carrier immediately after the application is complete.

### RECOMMENDED PRODUCTS





## INSTRUCTIONS - RAINWEAR

### BACKGROUND

Always protect the exterior of the rainwear garment from the heating iron with a protective paper with a matte surface to prevent the surface of the garment becoming shiny. (see item 3016 protective paper in our product catalogue or online store)

Pre-shrink the rainwear garment at **160°C** or **130°C** depending on the chosen product you are applying. To do this, press the heating plate directly onto the garment for 8-10 seconds. This shrinks and stabilises the garment ahead of the heat transfer application, creating the optimal conditions for a correctly performed application.

*NOTE! Applying a heat transfer onto a rainwear garment that has not been pre-shrunk can give poor results and, in the worst case, a ruined garment.*

### WHAT TO DO

1. Protect the rainwear garment from the heating iron with the matte side of the protective paper to prevent the surface of the garment becoming shiny.
2. Pre-shrink the garment for 8-10 seconds at 160°C or 130°C, depending on your chosen product
3. Place the transfer onto the garment and begin the application.
4. Remove the plastic carrier

### RECOMMENDED PRODUCTS



+



item 3016



## INSTRUCTIONS - SOFTSHELL GARMENTS

### BACKGROUND

Some softshell and polyester garments have a tendency to 'bleed' or 'migrate' (as some people call it) through the heat transfer (see picture below). We've developed an add-on to minimise the chances of this occurring. The add-on is called 'BLOCKER'.

You can order Blockers for all heat transfers in the **STARK & REFLEX Heat Transfer** range as an optional extra as part of the ordering process through our online store. Heat transfers with Blocker give you the same quality, but they also prevent/slow down bleed-through/migration on most materials. Our BLOCKER is easily recognisable by its grey reverse side.



**X** Heat transfer without blocker

**✓** Heat transfer with blocker

### WHAT TO DO

1. Pre-shrink the garment for 8-10 seconds at 160°C or 130°C, depending on your chosen product
2. Place your heat transfer on the part of the garment where it is to be applied
3. Make sure that your heat press settings are correct according to the application instructions
4. Begin the heat transfer application
5. Remove the plastic carrier immediately after the application is complete.

### RECOMMENDED PRODUCTS





## IMPRINT FROM THE HEAT PLATE

### BACKGROUND

Occasionally, what's known as an 'imprint' from the heat plate can be left on the garment after applying the sticker. All textiles have varying degrees of sensitivity to pressure and heat when you're applying a heat transfer.

- On some fabrics, the plate imprint fades away after some time, once the garment gets back to its normal humidity level due to the surrounding environment.
- On other fabrics, the imprint disappears after washing.
- However, the imprint can also end up being permanent on some fabrics.

To minimise the imprint, we recommend using as small a bottom plate as possible for the heat transfer application.

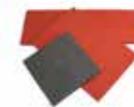
Alternatively, use a rubber plate (item 3003, 3011, 3012 & 3014). The rubber plate can be cut to the appropriate size for the heat transfer you're applying.

The lower the temperature of the heat transfer, the less visible the imprint. We therefore recommend using **FLEX Heat Transfer**, which has a lower application temperature.

### NOTE!

We occasionally hear that the imprint can be avoided if you put a piece of fabric on top during the heat transfer application. However, this should be avoided as the fabric/cloth absorbs the heat from the heating iron, potentially resulting in the glue not being correctly melted, resulting in the heat transfer coming off the garment when it's washed.

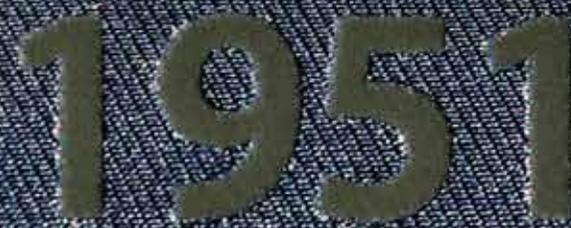
### RECOMMENDED PRODUCT



Item 3003, 3011,  
3012, 3014



## GLUE EDGE AROUND THE HEAT TRANSFER



### BACKGROUND

Some sealed textiles do not absorb the glue from the heat transfer, which can result in an unattractive edge of glue which has melted outwards around the heat transfer.

This problem becomes even more visible when applying a dark heat transfer onto dark textiles. If you're not able to choose a different colour for the heat transfer, you can try a method we call 'glue edge blotting' to minimise the visible glue rim.

Use our 'protective paper' accessory (*item 3016*) which does not leave any traces on the textile when 'blotting' away the glue edge.



*\*The picture above shows glue that has stuck to the paper after 'blotting'.*

### WHAT TO DO

1. Place the matte side of the protective paper on the heat transfer where the glue edge starts.
2. Press the heating iron down over the protective paper, using the same setting you used to apply the heat transfer, and keep it heated for approximately 10 seconds.
3. Immediately remove the protective paper, while it's still hot and the glue is still liquid.
4. The paper will soak up the excess glue from around the heat transfer, resulting in a heat transfer application with a less visible glue rim.

### TIP! USE PROTECTIVE PAPER

*To prevent the risk of leaving traces of the heat transfer on your hot press, use our protective paper (use the matte side), which can be ordered via our online store.*



#### Item 3016 - Protective paper

Size: 60 x 40cm

Price: **SEK 189** (100-pack)



## HEAT PLATE CLEANING

### INTRODUCTION

After a number of applications, the heating iron on your heat press can get dirty, which poses the risk of dirtying the garment onto which you're applying the heat transfer.

Dirt that becomes attached to the Teflon cloth could be due to a heat transfer which has been reheated without protective paper. It could also be due to dyes from garments that have become attached to the Teflon cloth (happens often with hi-vis vests).

Below, we provide tips on the best ways to clean the Teflon cloth in your heat press depending on the type of dirt.

### REMOVE REMAINS OF A HEAT TRANSFER

1. Raise the temperature of your heat press to 180° C.
2. Wipe down the Teflon cloth on the hot heating iron with a cotton rag. (A cotton T-shirt works well)
3. Inspect the surface of the attached Teflon cloth to ensure all the dirt has been removed. Otherwise, continue wiping it until it's clean.
4. Replace the Teflon sheet if it shows any signs of damage.

 **NOTE!** We recommend using protective gloves when cleaning the heating iron to minimise the risk of burn injuries.

### TIP! USE PROTECTIVE PAPER

To prevent the risk of leaving traces of the heat transfer on your hot press, use our protective paper (use the matte side), which can be ordered via our online store.



#### Item 3016 - Protective paper

Size: 60 x 40cm

Price: **SEK 189** (100-pack)

### REMOVE REMAINS OF DYES FROM GARMENTS

1. Turn off your heat press and ensure the heating iron has cooled
2. Use a shirt lightly moistened with methylated spirits to wipe down the Teflon cloth
3. Repeat as needed until the surface is completely clean.
4. Replace the Teflon sheet if it shows any signs of damage.



# 'TRANSFER ON TRANSFER'

## BACKGROUND

It's usually possible to apply a heat transfer onto another heat transfer, but there are some things to keep in mind to ensure the best result every time.

- We recommend only using **STARK Heat Transfer** for heat transfer applications onto existing stickers. If the existing heat transfer is from another supplier or is part of our FLEX product type, we do not recommend this type of solution.
- The new sticker must always be larger than the existing one on the garment in order for it to cover up the existing one. We recommend ordering the new sticker with a bottom plate to ensure maximum coverage.
- If you're transferring a dark heat transfer onto a light one, a finishing coat may be required to prevent the underlying sticker from shining through the new one. You can order the additional product, 'BLOCKER', to prevent the underlying sticker from being visible.

## WHAT TO DO!

1. For the best possible result, start by pressing down the heat plate directly onto the existing transfer and carry out a full application cycle\* (see page 3). *\*If your heat press doesn't already have a Teflon cloth attached, it's helpful to use one for this process.*
2. Apply the 'covering' heat transfer onto the existing heat transfer.
3. Apply the heat transfer with the recommended settings (see page 3).

## RECOMMENDED PRODUCTS

