

Sublimation

Vapor Apparel Production Recommendations

Last Updated: May 2005

In order to ensure your success with our Vapor Apparel shirts we would like to strongly recommend and encourage these minor heat press modifications, production tips, and image preparations:

1. **Reduce Pressure & Temperature / Extend Dwell Time:**

A well known way to reduce heat press lines from apparel is by reducing the heat and pressure during pressing. **We recommend all at 375°F for 35 seconds.**

2. **Bevel Your Heat Press Pad at 45° Angle:**

By beveling or rounding the edge of your heat pad you are dramatically reducing pressure on the edge of the garment from the heat press. **This will dramatically reduce heat transfer impressions on the garment.** For a smooth edge, we recommend that you use an exacto knife to trim the heat pad.

3. **Make Sure Paper is Larger than the Press Platen:**

This can usually be done with Epson 4000 and larger printers and will keep you from having paper press lines.

4. **Trim Images to Eliminate Paper Lines:**

When the printer is a 1280 or smaller, some decorators often take the time to trim the excess paper surrounding the transfer image. **This prevents any detection of the paper press line by the customer.** This step can be labor intensive if the graphics are odd shaped. Some decorators will also frame images with a darker color outline and then trim the excess paper.

5. **Other Tips for Eliminating the Paper Line:**

- Drop the head of the heat press on the sublimated shirt for 2-3 seconds after the paper is removed.
- Roll the shirt with a Teflon rolling pin immediately after pressing.
- Run your finger along the paper line immediately after pressing (Be careful - it will be hot!).
You may want to protect your finger with something.