

Press-n-Peel Instructions Metal Transfers

Graphics can be produced by hand or computer. The original graphic is printed on the PnP acetate base in a thermal copier or laser printer (inkjet and bubblejet printers will not work). The image is printed or copied onto the dull side (emulsion) of the PnP Blue film. The mask will be the dark image. It is the black pigment that absorbs the heat and transfers to your work. Note that the image will be reversed when it is transferred. Cut the image out of the PnP leaving at least 1/4 inch border.

Metal surfaces work best if they have a scratch brushed surface. Scotch Brite or pumice are excellent. Water should sheet off the metal when it is clean. If water beads it means the surface is still dirty or oily. The sheet should be flat to help with the transfer of heat.

Place your PnP image face or dull side down on the prepared metal. Scotch tape can be used to hold the metal and the image in place. A light cloth or piece of paper can be used over the piece to alleviate friction.

Note: You can help the heat transfer process along by using a plate of heated metal as your ironing board. You can preheat a heavy steel plate in a kiln or it can be placed on a hot plate and allowed to get hot to the touch. This is especially helpful for larger images.

The brass heat control on our Transfer Iron should be turned clockwise 1/2 to 3/4 of it's travel. A clothes iron should be set at 225-250° F. That is usually between the "acrylic" and "polyester" settings.

The time it will take will vary depending on the size and thickness of the piece. You may note a slight change in the color of the PnP as the image transfers. If the clear backing begins to wrinkle up at the edges you may be working too hot. Do not use steam.

Allow the metal to cool or quench in cool water. Any "fills" inside of letters or between lines that have accidentally transferred can be lifted off with adhesive tape.

The metal is now ready for anodizing or acid etching. Please take all safety precautions. Wear the proper protective clothing and provide for adequate ventilation.

The mask may be removed with paint thinner or other solvents. Be careful not to scratch an anodized surface.

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DIRECTIONS

Press-n-Peel PCB Transfer film

- ★ Photocopy (Dry Toner) or Laser Print (Not Inkjet) circuit image onto the dull side of Press-n-Peel Blue or glossy side of Press-n-Peel Wet (Blue is blue, Wet is white).
- ★ Prepare: Clothes Iron, Steel Wool #00 and a touch of liquid soap (or SOS, Brillo), Packaging Tape, Photocopy or Laser Printed Circuit Image & Directions.
- ★ Cut Press-n-Peel, leaving a 1/4" border around the circuit image. Cut board to size.
- ★ Clean copper board with steel wool, SOS or Brillo pads. Rinse cleaned board with soap and water. Be sure to remove all soap residues. Dry thoroughly with lint-free cloth. Be sure to scrape any burrs that appear on the edge of the board that may have resulted from the cutting/shearing process. Burrs tend to keep the iron from making solid contact with the Press-n-Peel Film.
- ★ Place Press-n-Peel with image face down onto clean copper board. Iron the Press-n-Peel Film to the board. Some users prefer placing a piece of plain paper between the iron and the film to reduce friction. Temperature setting on the iron is critical and dependent upon your laser printer or photocopier. Suggested starting temperature is 275-325 degrees F. Iron settings generally are between the "acrylic" and "polyester" settings. Iron temperatures vary. Iron until board has completely and fully reached the temperature of the iron. Time varies with the size and thickness of the board. Generally this is 1.5 to 4 minutes. **DO NOT USE STEAM!**
- ★ Quench the board/film combination under cold running water. Peel the film off.
- ★ (Applies to PnP Blue Only!) To remove, if necessary, small "fills" in between traces and "filled donuts", cover the imaged copper board with clear packing tape, and then remove. This will pull all unwanted filled areas off the board.
- ★ After removing "fills", trim the board (if necessary) to the final size. Wash the board in soap & water before etching to remove surface oxidation. Etch with any standard copper board etching solution -- Ammonium Persulfate, Ferric Chloride, etc. (Note: Most etchants are available through local electronic supply stores).
- ★ Using steel wool, scrub the Press-n-Peel image off as to reveal copper traces. This is best done under running water. Suggestion: Do not do this until you're ready to drill and populate the board. The Press-n-Peel transfer resist protects the board from oxidation.

