Inkjet Fabric Roll Instructions

For inkjet printers with or without a roll feed.

This fabric is for inkjet printers only. Do not use laser printers or color copying machines. The fabric is washable and dry cleanable. The colorfastness of your fabric printout will depend on many factors, including the number of washings, soap or detergent used, chemicals in your water, the total exposure to light, and the type of printer ink used. Be aware that the fabric may shrink slightly, so we recommend printing your photo approximately ¼" larger in width and height to allow for any shrinkage.

1 Prepare image for printing

Import a photo or image into your computer by scanning, using a digital photograph, or creating a design using software.

2 Prepare fabric for printing

• If you plan to banner print, try to flatten the leading edge by gently re-curling it in the opposite direction (plastic side out). If you cut a length of fabric from the roll, flatten any curl by weighting the fabric sheet down overnight with books.

• Trim any loose threads from the fabric. Do not pull them.

3 Prepare Printer for printing

Adjust printer setting to Plain Paper (use Thick Paper if printer has this option). The quality setting is up to you. Sometimes we find Best quality can put out too much ink. Normal quality may be a better setting, but each printer is different. (It is a good idea to check printer for ink levels and replace cartridges before loading on roll paper.)

4 Printing a sheet cut from the roll

Cut your fabric sheet to the size you need. It is important that the fabric’s leading edge is cut using a straight edge so that the corners are at 90 degree angles. If not, the printer’s paper sensor may detect a paper jam.

Test-print on paper before printing on fabric, marking an X on your paper to ensure you know whether your printer feeds straight through or up and over so that you print onto fabric side of the sheet.

Remove all paper from tray (use Manual Feed if available), and insert fabric one sheet at a time. Indicate the size to be printed in the dialog box that allows you to choose paper size. You may need to create a Custom Size in your printer paper size options.

Printing a long sheet using the roller feed that attaches to your printer

Place the roll feed holders on each end of the roll, according to the instructions provided for your printer. Carefully follow their instructions for printing from a roll. It is important that the fabric’s leading edge is cut using a straight edge so that the corners are at 90 degree angles. If not, the printer’s paper sensor may detect a paper jam. Leave two or three inches of slack in the roll so the fabric is not pulled tightly, as this might keep it from feeding. You may need to gently lift the fabric away from the roll while it’s printing to prevent it from pulling the fabric tight against the roll.

If you start to get unwanted lines on your printout, or hear a loud clicking sound as it’s printing, be sure there is enough slack on the roll. You may have to use your fingers to keep the fabric loose on the roll while printing.
After printing

5 If you've printed using your roll feed, check your printer's instruction manual on how to remove roll paper prints from the roll. You may need to feed out the fabric first, then return to position. Cut the fabric from the roll. (Use a straight edge to make certain you are cutting straight across the roll, and leaving 90 degree corners, so your next print can start from this edge.)

Let the printed fabric dry for 15 minutes after printing. (You may let it dry longer, even for days, if it's more convenient.)

Peel off plastic backing.

6 Soak in room temperature water for 10 minutes. We recommend soaking in distilled water, since local tap water may have additives that affect the printer ink. If you notice ink bleeding, soak in a solution of one part of any fabric softener to three parts distilled water. The soaking process is intended to remove excess printer ink, so keep the fabric moving by swishing it around in the water solution if you notice bleeding.

For long banner prints, you may want to use the bath tub to soak your fabric so the fabric doesn't fold over itself, which could cause ink to transfer to unwanted areas of your printout.

Lay flat to dry. Do not twist the fabric to wring out the water. You may want to blot with a paper towel so that water does not pool on your printed fabric.

Care Instructions

• Wash only when absolutely necessary. Printer ink will not withstand repeated washings.

• Wash gently by hand or machine, using only the mildest soap or detergent you can find. Do not bleach. Lay flat to dry.

• If necessary, iron on low to medium heat on the back side of the fabric if you haven't already sewn your fabric into your project. Hot irons can cause some printer inks to look muddy, so do not use a hot iron. You are not heat setting—ironing is only needed if you want to smooth wrinkles from the fabric.

• Do not place in direct sunlight. The colorfastness of your image depends on how colorfast your printer ink is. All fabric will fade in direct sunlight.

• Store unused fabric in a closed package away from direct sunlight or other light sources. Keep out of hot and humid conditions.

Tips

• Since printers do not print white, the white in your image will be the same color as the fabric sheet.

• If the fabric does not feed smoothly through the printer, we suggest you clean your print rollers, according to your printer manufacturer’s instructions for this. When rollers pick up paper or fabric lint, they can eventually not be able to pick up certain media (even though they may still pick up plain paper).

Look for other EQ Printables Fabrics from the Electric Quilt Company at www.electricquilt.com!