

Course: PR 620EH_ON / Screenprinting at Home

Instructor: Lisa Hamilton

Days/Dates: 10 weeks, Fridays, January 22 – March 26

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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- Roll of clear packing tape
- Roll of masking tape
- Freezer wrap
- Crayola crayons
- Spatula
- Sponge
- Bucket
- 2 Spray bottles
- Paper towels
- Several clean plastic food containers (we will mix and store inks in these)
- Speedball drawing fluid-8 oz
- Speedball screen filler- 8 oz
- Permanent Acrylic Screen Print Inks- white, black, red, yellow, blue - 8 oz minimum each
- Acetate sheet the same size as chosen screen size
- Greased lightning cleaner
- Dish detergent
- Pencil
- 6- 2" x 2" pieces of chipboard or mat board (not cardboard)
- Newsprint pad the same size as chosen screen size
- Sketch paper
- Printing paper- bristol, arches 88, stonehenge are a few I recommend
- Squeegee that is 2" larger than the width of your maximum image size (determine after selecting your screen size) with a durometer of 70 (medium)

A note about inks: Inks are sold for printing on paper, fabric and a variety of alternative surfaces. Make sure you select a permanent acrylic ink for printing on paper. I use and like both speedball and blick inks but there are many others.

Screen Options

I recommend a 23" x 31" aluminum screen with a mesh count of 195. I order from Victory Factory but there are many suppliers.

Screen Size-

The screen size is not the image size. We lose 3" in both length and width for the screen frame. Additionally we lose 4-6" of both length and width due to the tension of the screen (discuss more in class.) To determine maximum image size for a screen safely subtract 7-9" from length and width.

- 23" x 31" (my preference) has an image size up to 14" x 22" for easy printing
- 21" x 27" has an image size up to 12" x 18" for easy printing
- 20" x 24" has an image size up to 11" x 15" for easy printing

Mesh Count-

Screens are now primarily made with monofilament Polyester Mesh with a wide range of mesh counts (threads per square inch.) The lower the mesh count means there are less threads per square inch. More ink travels through a screen with a low mesh count. The higher the mesh means more threads per square inch resulting in less ink traveling through the screen. The higher the mesh count also means the screen can hold more details of the image.

110 mesh count- good for fabric printing

195 mesh count- good for paper printing (this is what I recommend)

Different manufactures sell different mesh counts. I order my screens from Victory Factory. Blick carries screens but not in 195 mesh. They sell 155 and the next size is 230. If you are choosing between these please pick the 155 mesh (we will discuss more in class.)

If you want to build a portable screen table for printing. You will need the following:

- Screen in chosen size
- Pair of screen print hinge clamps
- Board 8-10" larger than chosen screen length and 6" wider than the screen width
- (want something level that won't absorb moisture- ex. Melamine board or a wood board that is sealed with polyurethane)
- Drill
- 4 screws
- Screwdriver
- Ruler
- Pencil

If you want something already made for you

- AWT sells screen printing units in various sizes. The unit comes with the clamps attached to a board, screen and a squeegee. I have never used these so I cannot recommend one way or another. The convenience is certainly appealing however they use a mesh I am unfamiliar with and do not disclose the durometer of the squeegee.

Zoom with Canvas

Thank you for registering for this online course. This course will take place live via Zoom, a free videoconferencing service. You will only need a computer with a high-speed internet connection to participate, as well as a means of photographing your work to upload -- a cell phone camera will suffice. All Zoom meetings take place in Eastern Time.

You will receive instructions* for accessing *Zoom* videoconferencing sessions in a reminder email two days before the course start date. *Please be sure to check your email junk/spam folder.* We ask that you please take advantage of the *Zoom* tutorial before the course begins. Basic training sessions for Zoom will be made available at the start of the course as well. Review PAFA's list of [Zoom Technical Requirements](#) for additional information.

* *Please note:* The passcode included in the instructions for entering Zoom sessions is case-sensitive and should include no added punctuation at the end. If you are entering the passcode correctly and it is not being accepted as valid, try clearing your internet browsing history and restarting your device before re-entering it.

Students having continued difficulty accessing Zoom due to issues with their device or internet connection, may wish to use an alternate device, such as a smartphone, to enter a particular day's session.

You will also receive an invitation to join *Canvas*, PAFA's online learning management system, on, or shortly before, the course start date. Your username is the email you registered with, and you will need to set up your password. Canvas is the website where the syllabus, assignments, videos, and feedback will be. You can always sign-in to Canvas and find all of the information you need about your class. For Canvas instructions (following acceptance of the emailed invitation to log in), see PAFA's [Canvas FAQs](#).

Please contact us the any questions at continuinged@pafa.edu. For more information and links, please see CE's [Registration Information](#) (<https://www.pafa.org/school/academics/continuing-education/registration-information>).