

TECHNICAL DATA SHEET

SHORT DESCRIPTION:

Aquasilk Series inks were designed to give tees, towels, and blankets the soft-hand feel your customers want. Just like any other plastisol, there are no special printing or curing instructions to hold you back. This is the new version of our popular Babysoft Series.

QUICK SPECIFICATIONS:



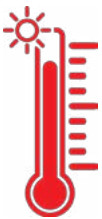
MESH COUNT
86 to 230

This is simply a recommendation as your art work will determine exactly which mesh count is right for you. Aquasilk is often best when screen printed through 158 count mesh. However on fuzzy fabrics, more ink may give the print a softer feel.



FLASH CURE
3/5: Average

The rating of **AVERAGE** implies a flash cure performance similar to most plastisol inks. Due to the great number of variables involved, we cannot specify a specific flash time or temperature. However, this ink should flash dry like most inks you have printed before.



INK CURING
320°F to 330°F

Washing and drying your prints to check durability is the ultimate test of ink curing. However, the use of Thermolabels is the most sensible method of testing for your day-to-day operations. This will help you prevent cracking, peeling, and washout.



SQUEEGEES
70 Durometer

Squeegees are one of many variables controlling your ink deposit. Softer squeegees are capable of printing thicker while hard squeegees allow for better print resolution. 60 durometer is soft. 70 durometer is medium. 80 durometer is hard.



CLEAN UP
PW-4 or IR-26

Many cleaning products will remove plastisol ink. We recommend SaatchiChem PW-4 for cleaning on-press. The IR-26 is ideal when cleaning in a washout booth. Cleaning the ink out of the screen immediately after printing is always recommended.



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AQUASILK SERIES BENEFITS:

- Huge selection of colors.
- Softest feel of any plastisol ink.
- Great opacity for such a soft ink.
- Very smooth finish for detailed art work.
- Stretchy. Great for use on cotton/stretch clothing.

IDEAL CURING GUIDELINES:

Cure the Aquasilk Series at the temperatures listed below (measure with a Thermolabel). Curing is a time and temperature process. A lower temperature with a slower belt speed is always the best method.

100% Cotton	Poly/Cotton	Polyester	Nylon/Stretch	100% Nylon	Polypropylene	Rayon
320°F	320°F*	X	X	X	X	X

*Aquasilk Series will be an effective ink option for most poly/cotton fabrics. However, due to the soft nature of this ink, dye migration may be a concern. Always test one print before starting on the entire order.

TIPS AND TRICKS:

- Aquasilk White is a fantastic underbase ink as it is extremely flat on the fabric.
- When screen printing stretchy fabrics, print a thicker ink deposit. Thin ink deposits will be easier to crack.
- Ribbed cotton can be a tricky fabric to print as the ink is so much thinner at the peak of the ribbed material as compared to inside the grooves. This causes cracking at the peak if the ink is not printed thick enough.

Always perform a pretest print and test cure conditions on the fabric to be printed to establish the best results. Stir inks vigorously before each use. Viscosity may need adjusting for best results. If there is ever a question about a print job, call us at 800-942-4447. We are always happy to help!