



J.M. FRY INKS

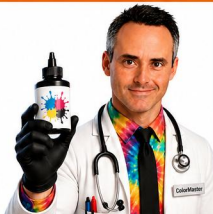
A FAMILY BUSINESS



PRECISION. PERFORMANCE. PERFECT INK.

SIMPLE TROUBLE GUIDE

A Quick Reference for Better Prints, Less Waste, and Happier Customers.



1 MEASURE AND ADJUST VISCOSITY

Viscosity affects ink transfer, color strength and print consistency.

IF VISCOSITY IS TOO HIGH:

- ✗ Poor ink transfer
- ✗ Weak color
- ✗ Increased plate wear
- ✗ Inconsistent prints

IF VISCOSITY IS TOO LOW:

- ✗ Ink slurs or smears
- ✗ Poor dot definition
- ✗ Excessive ink laydown
- ✗ Longer dry times

TO ADJUST:

- ✓ Add water or reducer to lower
- ✓ Add thickener to raise
- ✓ Mix well and recheck



2 MEASURE AND ADJUST pH

pH impacts ink stability, adhesion and print performance.

IF pH IS TOO LOW (ACIDIC):

- ✗ Ink instability
- ✗ Build-up on plates
- ✗ Poor adhesion
- ✗ Fast drying
- ✗ Color shift and fading

IF pH IS TOO HIGH (ALKALINE):

- ✗ Slow drying
- ✗ Ink smearing
- ✗ Poor adhesion
- ✗ Color shift

TO ADJUST:

- ✓ Use anilox cleaner / pH adjuster
- ✓ Add small amounts (1-2 ml per lb of ink)
- ✓ Mix well and recheck
- ✓ Target range: 8.5 - 9.5



3 FOLLOW BEST PRACTICES

Good habits lead to consistent quality and fewer problems.

- ✓ Keep ink, anilox and plates clean
- ✓ Use the right anilox for the job
- ✓ Maintain proper impression
- ✓ Control ink temperature
- ✓ Ensure consistent ink flow
- ✓ Monitor and adjust regularly
- ✓ Store inks in proper conditions
- ✓ Train and empower your team

COMMON FLEXOGRAPHIC PRINTING PROBLEMS

SYMPTOM

POSSIBLE CAUSES

SOLUTIONS



Poor Ink Transfer / Weak Color

- Low viscosity
- Inadequate ink flow
- Worn anilox or plate
- Low impression

- Adjust viscosity
- Increase ink flow
- Check and replace worn components
- Optimize impression



Smearing / Slur

- Low viscosity
- Too much ink
- Low drying
- Incorrect impression

- Adjust viscosity
- Reduce ink laydown
- Improve drying (heat/air, retarder)
- Adjust impression



Poor Dot Definition / Blurry Print

- Low viscosity
- Worn or dirty anilox
- Excessive pressure
- Wrong anilox screen

- Adjust viscosity
- Clean or replace anilox
- Reduce pressure
- Use correct anilox screen



Color Variation From Print to Print

- Viscosity changes
- Inconsistent ink flow
- Temperature / humidity changes
- Worn components

- Control viscosity
- Ensure consistent ink flow
- Stabilize environment
- Replace worn parts



Chatter / Vibration (Halo or Wavy Print)

- Worn or damaged anilox
- Anilox vibration
- Improper mesh engagement
- Pressure variation

- Replace or recoat anilox
- Check gear condition
- Adjust mesh properly
- Reduce vibration and ensure ink supply



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INK
in control



TEMPERATURE
in control



TIME
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