

## **TIPS FOR PRINT ON TISSUE**

Although, many of you probably use a printer and some form of paint program to print tissue, there are many of you that don't and would like to know how. I'll try to keep it as simple as possible.

To start, one needs a program whether it be MS Paint or Gimp. Simple designs, be it roundels or multi color lines can be completed in the simplest of programs. If you have problems with that, I suggest you contact someone who has knowledge of those programs to help with the designs.

There are many brands of printers that will work to produce your design. I personally like Epson that uses Durabrite cartridges. After printing the colors will not run when water is used for shrinking. Others have had luck using alcohol when shrinking. Laser printers work well for printing on tissue and don't run when water is used for shrinking. I suggest you try your brand in experiments first before a final print.

Now that I have a design, I attach a sheet of tissue to bond paper with an adhesive that is called a re positional spray. Staples sell this. Other stores including Amazon have them as well.

I cut the tissue to 8 inch x 10.5 inch as the bond paper is 8.5 inch x 11 inch. This is to make it easy to position the tissue without having to trim the edges before it goes into the printer. Very easy to jam the paper with over hanging edges. I simply spray the bond paper 3 times from a distance of a foot. I recommend you practice this and immediately remove the tissue. If it is torn and rips then you have used too much spray.

It really only needs a quick spray 3 x's to cover the paper. I spray top, middle, bottom in less than 2 seconds.

If you have wrinkles, lift a corner and relay it to remove them. It doesn't have to be perfect. As you print several designs, you will see what you can get away with in terms of wrinkles.

One thing I will emphasize here is that you don't need the maximum printing level. Standard levels of ink will work fine. Any more than that will be a waste and you will see wasted ink on the backer of bond paper.

You can print on any tissue, domestic, various Jap tissues like Esaki or Mt. Fuji. You can use colored tissue and add roundels, etc. You don't have to print everything on white tissue. This can save you a lot of ink if you have an orange pattern for your plane and just want some numbers on the wing and rudder.

Outside of attaching the tissue, I think the hardest part may be the removal after printing. You may have sprayed a bit too much in one area. What I do is to start by lifting one corner and gently pulling back over the area that is still attached. I do this slowly. As I said before, after you have sprayed a few sheets and removed the tissue, you will know the amount to spray and how to remove the tissue without tearing it.

There are other techniques for attachment that use glue sticks or cellophane tape. I consider these time consuming as with the tape and more prone to tearing as with the glue sticks.

When I am ready to print, I only put the sheet to be printed in as I have had several sheets come out together

ruining my print. Your choice. But my way, only one sheet will be printed and come out.

One other caveat. I only use OEM cartridges because I have had the refills go South and it was the middle of the night during a snow storm and it was the hottest night of the year!

Finally, with the printed tissue removed you can then place it back down on the backer sheet reversed so that you can either use chalk or a light spray of white primer to make the tissue a bit more opaque and the colors stand out more. If you use primer, be sure to place the spray can in a pan of warm water for several minutes. It will flow better this way and not spit paint. Using chalk is an easy technique of simply applying the chalk with a standard facial tissue in a circular motion and gently wiping it off. Use a professional grade of chalk such as Pan Pastel, not sidewalk chalk.

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