

Using Lisa Pavelka's Waterslide Transfers

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The ink used to print these transfers is waterproof. This is why the images with lettering appear face-forward. These must be trimmed or punched with scrapbook punches to the desired shape before application. Saturate the backing of the trimmed transfer with water. Wait 1-2 minutes before starting to slide the backing off. Do not slide it off completely or the film will curl into a roll and be hard to control. Once the backing begins to slide freely, blot the front and back dry with a paper towel.

Place the exposed end of the film down onto the clay. Burnish the film down firmly with one finger while sliding the backing off with your other hand. Working from one direction to the other while doing this will help eliminate any air bubbles from forming. For best results seal the transfer with liquid clay as described above and bake as soon as possible after applying, to prevent the image from peeling off over time or curling up after Magic Glos resin is applied.

Lisa Custom Inkjet Transfer Paper

For pages that contain lettering, the printer needs to be set for reverse printing. This may be listed in the printer dialog menu as: "Reverse Image, Mirror Image or T-Shirt Transfer". Failure to reverse the print will cause letters to appear backwards when applying the transfers to polymer clay. Make sure to allow several minutes for the ink to dry before using the transfers. The pages measure the size of one half-sheet of copy paper. It's most economical to fill an entire page before printing. Once you cut into the page, you will not be able to reprint on any blank areas that remain. Set the size of the document (in whichever program you are using to paste photos/images) to measure: 5.25" x 8.5" inches and then fill the entire area before printing.

When dry, trim the desired transfer to the size and shape required using scissors before application. Once applied, craft knives and clay blades won't cut through the material. Additional trimming after application should be done with scissors to cut through the transfer and the clay together. Paper punches (often used for scrapbooking) are also a wonderful way to cut your transfers into different sizes and shapes before application.

Place the image face down over lightly colored clay. Starting at one end of the transfer, burnish (rub) the image onto the clay using firm pressure with your index finger. Doing this by working from one end to the other will force out any trapped air. Clay that isn't completely flat and smooth may also result in air bubbles forming during baking.

Tip: You can create special effects by blurring the edges of the custom inkjet transfers to give a distressed look to your work. Use a damp cotton swab to blur/bleed the ink around the edges (or anywhere you like) on the transfer. Do not over-saturate the swab, as it's impossible to control where non-contained water will go on the transfer. Blot any excess moisture, and allow the transfer to dry before using.

Dampen the back of the transfer paper with a few drops of water. When the paper is thoroughly saturated, allow it to sit for 30-60 seconds. Blot away any excess water and slide the backing off with your finger. Gently clean the residue from the transfer with a baby wipe or paper towel.

If air bubbles appear between the clay and the transfer, smooth them towards the edges with a dampened fingertip. If this doesn't work, lift up the corner nearest to the bubble and reapply the film onto the clay with your fingertip. Seal the transfer with liquid polymer clay before baking.