





Guide: 7 Popular Transfer Styles

Heat transfers come in all shapes and sizes. While they all share a common purpose, there are different types of applications. Unlock the potential of heat printing by decoding the world of heat transfers. No matter the design, job size, or application method, there's a heat transfer perfect for your job.




Product	Ideal For	Compatible Fabrics	Best Job Size	Best Logo Style	Durability
 <p>Screen Printed Transfers Printed in a mirror image to release paper and made from plastisol ink.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screen print finishes with no mess • Heat applying on-demand and at events • Supplementing smaller screen printing runs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cotton • Polyester • Nylon 	48+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 3 colors • Highly detailed 	Very Good
 <p>CAD-CUT® Heat Transfer Features a thermo-plastic carrier and cut on a vinyl cutter.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personalization & printing low quantities • Team uniform names & numbers • Special effects like glitter, metallic, & textures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cotton • Nylon • Polyester • Lycra/Spandex 	Less than 48	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 & 2 colors • Logos with limited detail 	*Excellent
 <p>Digitally Printed Heat Transfer Vinyl Create high-res, full-color images with solvent or eco-solvent inks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personalizing full-color logos on any fabric 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cotton • Nylon • Polyester • Leather • Lycra/spandex 	**Less than 48	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4+ colors • Fine detail • Variable data 	Very good
 <p>Sublimation Transfers Made from sublimation ink, digitally printed onto a release paper and applied at a high temperature.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-apparel items • Light-colored performance apparel • All-over printing on performance apparel such as cycling jerseys, or wrestling singlets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polyester • White and light colors only 	Any	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4+ colors • All-over printing 	Excellent

*Best durability for contact sports

**Or large runs of personalized items

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 <p>Inkjet & Laser Transfers Use an ink jet or laser printer to print onto a transfer paper. Great for short term applications and full-color logos. Shortest lifespan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term apparel applications like family reunion shirts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cotton • Polyester 	Less than 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4+ colors • Photos 	Average
 <p>Rhinestone Transfers Heat applied to apparel to add a sparkly, bling effect.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adding high-end bling to apparel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cotton • Polyester 	Any	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simple text • Images 	Good
 <p>Fabric-Based Heat Transfers Cut from appliqué materials and backed with a permanent adhesive. Create unique finishes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering an appliqué look without sewing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cotton • Polyester 	Any	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simple text • Images 	Very good