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Heat Presses

The act of sublimation (solid ink dye particles vaporizing directly to gas without passing through the liquid stage) relies on adding heat and pressure to the sublimation transfer and the blank substrate. This is done using a commercial heat press. There are a variety of heat presses available on the market, but the wide format world tends to use two types of heat presses for sublimation transfers: Platen and Rotary.



Platen Heat Presses

Typically used for producing individual pieces, platen heat presses use a heated platen (or perfectly flat steel plate) to press flat or rigid pieces such as cut apparel, ceramics, wood, metals and more. There are a variety of sizes available ranging from 12” wide to 5’ wide. For increased production, shuttle platen presses utilize two workspaces with a single heated platen, allowing you to prep your product on one surface, while you are pressing another product on the second surface, reducing production time!

Rotary Heat Presses

Rotary heat presses use a heated drum which spins fabric through the press to decorate rolls of fabric continuously. These presses are designed to print fabric pieces that are too large for a platen press. Used mainly for banners, flags, and cut/sew apparel (like jerseys), rotary presses tend to be more productive than platen presses. They cannot be used, however, to press rigid substrates.

Recommended Heat Presses

	Mechanics	Dimensions	MSRP	Speed	Applications
PLATEN PRESSES					
George Knight -- Maxi-3040	Manual	30" x 40"	\$ 7,950	NA	Hard substrates or fabric

George Knight -- Maxi-4060	Pneumatic	40" x 60"	\$17,250	NA	Hard substrates or fabric
AIT -- 354CR	Pneumatic	30" x 48"	\$17,325	NA	Hard substrates or fabric
AIT -- 165CR600	Pneumatic	39" x 63"	\$27,500	NA	Hard substrates or fabric
AIT -- 1600	Pneumatic	55" x 69" 50" x 100" 78" x 68" 60" x 120"	\$64,350 - \$78,000	Dual Platen for greater throughput	Hard substrates or fabric
ROTARY PRESSES					
AIT -- 7240IJ	Electric	40" W	\$15,750	6" drum	Fabric: POP, banners
AIT -- 7360IJ	Electric	60" W	\$33,400	8" drum	Fabric: POP, banners
AIT -- 7372IJ	Electric	72" W	\$37,400	8" drum	Fabric: POP, banners
AIT -- 7560	Electric Roll-to-Roll or Sheetfed	60" W	\$70,500 (\$8,000 for Roll-to- Roll Option)	24" drum	Fabric: Cut Part Apparel Piecegoods
AIT -- 7616	Electric Narrow Web	14" W	\$52,750	24" drum	Fabric: Ribbons, Lanyards
Klieverik -- GTC1850	Oil	65" W	\$59,850	7.9" drum	Fabric: POP, banners
Klieverik -- GTC1850SP	Oil Roll-to-Roll	65" W	\$83,420	7.9" drum	Fabric: Cut Part Apparel Piecegoods
Klieverik -- GTC2300	Oil	83" W	\$64,500	7.9" drum	Fabric: POP, banners
Klieverik -- GTC3400	Oil	126" W	\$93,450	7.9" drum	Fabric: POP, banners
Klieverik -- GTC101	Oil	71" W	\$98,800	14.4" drum	Fabric: POP, banners
IR HEATER					
BBC-FF72	Electric	72" W	\$14,995	10-sec. - 2 min.	Fabric: POP, banners

				(depending on image size)	M-ink Applications
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