GLITTERS FOR TEXTILE PRINTING

Typical Applications

Dresswear, saris, T- Shirts, childrenswear, furnishings.

Recommended Products

Water-based systems: Premier and Standard Polyester, Premier Ultra Thin Polyester, Premier and Standard Holographic and Premier and Standard Iridescent 1300/2300 series. Solvent-based systems: Premier and Standard Polyester, Premier Ultra Thin Polyester, Premier and Standard Holographic and Premier Iridescent 1400 series.

Premier Iridescent 1310, 1311 and 1312 have superior heat resistance and are particularly suitable for water-based rotary screen applications. Sizes used are .004" Sq (100µm) and .008" Hex (200µm) for printing and 015" Hex (375µm) for flock application. Larger sizes and Sequins and Shapes up to 1/8" may be used when "dipping" panel prints.

Glitter Loading

Rotary screen and "continuous" flat screen water-based systems: Approximately 10% by weight depending on the effect required. Premier Ultra Thin Polyester requires approx. 5% by weight. Flat screen solvent-based (Plastisol inks) for panel prints: Up to 20% by weight depending on the effect required. Premier Ultra Thin Polyester requires approx.10% by weight.

Recommended Minimum Mesh Sizes

Glitter Size Recommended Mesh Size .002" sq (50µm) 70T or 60# Rotary .004" sq (100µm) 34T or 40# Galvano for rotary .008" Hex (200µm) 20T or 22T. 30# Galvano or stencil screen for rotary .015" Hex (375µm) 10T is usable with care. (Please see our Screen Mesh Size guide for further details.)

Application - Direct printing

Gently mix the glitter with the required base. A clear drying base will give superior results. Avoid high shear mixing as this can strip the coating from the glitter particles, leading to colour loss and poor performance. Printing conditions will vary with the machinery used, but generally we recommend using the coarsest practical mesh, along with a soft squeegee, (or wide blade) with low pressure settings. With magnet systems we suggest a large bar with a low flux setting. In all cases keep the level of paste in the screen low and refresh regularly, to avoid drying out caused by the tendency of the base to pass through the screen more readily than the glitter particles (filtering). Always apply the glitter paste as the last screen to avoid subsequent screens smudging the glitter print.

Flock or Dipping application

For rotary printing, the base adhesive is screen printed followed by application of glitter from a flock application trough. Electrostatic charge helps the glitter to lie flat. The excess is vacuumed off and the fabric dried, leaving a very effective glitter effect on the fabric. For panel applications, the glitter adhesive is applied as the last screen, all other colours having flash cured. The panel is then removed from the machine and dipped into a tray of glitter. The excess is removed in a vacuum slot and the panel dried. Any size of Glitter, Sequins or Shapes can be applied by this method.

The above information is based on product specification and feedback from a customer base, and is intended as a guide. Process conditions and equipment can vary and therefore we strongly recommend that customers thoroughly test the product in the intended application to determine its suitability for use.

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