



## Disposal of PERMASET® Inks

**PERMASET®** Screen Printing Inks are water-based, biodegradable inks that are specifically designed to provide vibrant and durable prints while minimising their impact on the environment. While septic systems can cope with shampoo and thus eco-friendly **PERMASET®** Inks, disposal of **PERMASET®** Inks down the drain is not recommended. If you're generating waste as part of a commercial process, you should put some commercial facilities around waste management.

1. Have 3 waste collection tubs (like with computer backups) large enough to hold your screens.
2. One will have more than 2 week old water (or less if you're really busy), the 2nd will have 1 week old water and the 3rd will retain the washings from the current week.
3. At the end of a print run, leave the screens flooded to prevent ink drying in the screen/image area until you are ready to give each one your undivided attention. Presumably, you can only work on one screen at a time. Immediately at the end of the print run, you may need to mist/spray water over the top of the ink to keep that surface damp whilst you attend to other screens.
4. Once you get to an individual screen, scrape as much ink off the screen as possible and place into a clean, possibly sterilised, container that can be tightly sealed. Write on the tub with an indelible marker:
  - a. The colour formulation,
  - b. The date, and if there is more than one person in the print practice,
  - c. The initials (or other unique ID) of the operator.

Tightly seal the lid and store ideally in a cool place ideally subject to minimal diurnal temperature fluctuations. Properly stored and in the absence of biological infestation, these inks can be used in later jobs.

5. Wipe off the remaining ink on the screen with paper towels and damp rags and dispose of them to landfill.
6. Dump the scraped screen immediately to soak in the dirtiest (2 week old) water to soften.
7. When you come to the wash down part of the process, scrub first in the oldest/dirtiest water to remove most of the ink, then rinse with the second oldest water, then with the third "almost clean" water and finally rinse with high pressure clean water to get the last bits of ink and other contaminants off the screen; these last washings should be retained in the "almost clean" water tub. You might use a pressure washer at this point to maximise the benefit and minimise the volume of the fresh water that you do have to use.
8. At the end of the week, pour the dirtiest water through a filter screen to trap the largest particulate matter; the relatively clear water should be allowed to settle. The clear liquid thus derived can be poured onto the garden or returned into your process. However, this latter is not always an option as contamination can occur (particularly in warmer weather) and you do not want to foster the presence of putrefying bacteria, mould or



other microorganisms that would be much better dealt with in the soil and may actually make a positive contribution to biomass.

9. The solids fraction should be left out to dry in the sun and then be disposed of either as solid waste to landfill or incinerated, liberating the combustible elements back into the atmosphere whilst any resulting ash can be composted.
10. To close the wash part of the process, shuffle the 2 younger tubs down the line, rinse out what was the dirtiest one and start the cycle again.

NOTE: The information and recommendations contained in this Product Information Sheet, as well as technical advice otherwise given by representatives of our business, whether verbally or in writing, are based on our present knowledge and believed to be accurate. However, no guarantee regarding their accuracy is given as we cannot cover or anticipate every possible application of our products and because manufacturing methods, printing stocks and other materials vary. For the same reason, our products are sold without warranty and on condition that users conduct their own tests to satisfy themselves that they will fully meet their particular requirements. Our policy of continuous product improvement might make some of the information contained in this Product Information Sheet out of date and users are requested to ensure that they follow current recommendations.

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