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# **The T Shirt Printing Machine Can Use Several Different Methods**

Ever since people started wearing clothes, they have been decorating them. One of the most popular forms of clothing decorations is printing. Shirts are the most familiar medium for printing designs, slogans and art. A t shirt printing machine for this purpose will usually use screens, transfers or blocks to create these prints.

With all machines, the key part is called a platen. This is a square, oval or rectangular surface that shirts are spread out on. It must be flat, sturdy and rigid to support a printing procedure. Mainly, these can be made from wood, plastic or metal. They usually have a surface which is sticky, rough or tacky to hold the materials in place.

The most frequent system uses one or numerous screens for imprinting the designs. Each individual screen has openings that permit the inks to pass through it and onto the shirt material. A photo process is used to create these screens in a way that allows inks to be squeezed through only in places where it is wanted.

The screens have a metal, plastic or wooden frame which is attached to the machine by hinged devices that let them be lowered onto the shirt. Ink will then be applied to the screens. A flat squeegee made of neoprene, vinyl or rubber is scraped along the screens to force the ink into the material being printed.

When more than one color is required, there are rotating attachments that will clasp several screens at once. For example, when a shirt required red, yellow and blue lettering or patterns, different screens would be used for each of the separate colors. After the printing of each color, they are raised and the next would then be moved into the printing position.

This sort of machine is exceptionally versatile and it can easily be used on an extensive assortment of materials including cotton, nylon or polyester. Additionally, it can also print on items like signs, posters or stickers, as well as shirts. They will come in virtually any size to print on almost any flat surface. The fundamental process is the same whether you are printing on a truck decal, billboard or traffic sign.

Other shirt machines will use a transfer technique. They will also have a platen in addition to a hinged device, but it is for applying heat instead of inks. The design will come from a transfer that holds a sublimation, hot ink or plastisol product. Heating and pressure will cause the images to be fused into the material.

Another less commonly used method uses a carved wooden block. Inks are applied onto a block that is pressed onto an article. These are not frequently used today, but can have unique results when applied. On the other hand, they are very limited in the sort of materials they are capable of printing.

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