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Intro to Screen Printing Instructor:
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All materials can be picked up at art stores such as Artist and Craftsman, Blick or easily ordered online. The links below are provided so you can see exactly what the instructor recommends. We will go over this list the first class.

1. Printing Paper

Below are some recommended paper options for a maximum print area of 12" x 16". Our screen frame's inner dimensions are 17" x 21", so we need to leave at least 2 inches of space between your artwork and the frame.

- [Arches 88 Silk Screen Paper](#): 22" x 30" individual sheets
- [BFK Rives Printmaking Paper](#): 19.5" x 25.5" individual sheets (175g)
- [Bristol Strathmore 300 Series \(270g\)](#): 11" x 14" smooth surface pad of 20 sheets
- [Bristol Strathmore 400 Series](#): 14" x 17" smooth surface pad of 15 sheets
- [Newsprint Pad](#): Choose a size that matches or is larger than your selected printing paper.

We will be using a 195 mesh screen with an image area of 12" x 16". Printing larger than this is not permitted.

2. Mediums for Transferring Artwork to Screen

- [Laser Printer Transparency Film](#): 8.5" x 11" sheets.
- [Mylar Sheets](#): Same size or larger than your selected printing paper.
- [Tracing Paper](#): Same size or larger than your selected printing paper.

3. Inks

We will be using [Speedball Acrylic Ink](#), a water-soluble screen printing ink ideal for paper, cardstock, wood, and some vinyl. These inks offer excellent lightfastness, are non-toxic, quick-drying, and provide a vivid matte finish. They are water-resistant when dry.

Please note that ink stains on clothing are permanent once dry, so bring appropriate protective clothing.

The Educational Alliance will provide basic colors: red, blue, yellow, black, and white. If you plan to use any other colors (e.g., gold, silver), you will need to purchase them yourself.

- Please bring small containers (e.g., small Chinese soup containers) to store leftover ink for future use.

FAQ

- **What is the "Image Area"?**

The image area is the total space available for your artwork within the screen.

- **Why is the image area smaller than the screen dimensions?**

The screen dimensions include the frame, which has 1.5" walls. For example, a 20" x 24" screen has an inner dimension of 17" x 21". Your artwork should be at least 2.5" away from the inner walls to allow space for the squeegee, ink, and areas of the mesh that are too taut. This reduces the maximum printable area to 12" x 16". These principles apply to all screen frame sizes.