

Setting Up the Heat Press

OVERVIEW

At this point during the equipment setup process, we should have the ink installing into the printer and the pretreat device ready to spray a shirt. The heat press will be needed to cure that shirt, so it will need to be powered on and setup. Heat press setup is relatively quick by comparison to other equipment. If a caddie was purchased, ready with the heat press already mounted and bolted down. The main reason to use a caddie is to be able to thread the garment onto the press to avoid pass through for pretreat and ink. Laying the garment onto the press can create an undesired affect where ink or pretreat stain the back of the shirt. This process also allows for us to first utilize the front of a garment and then utilize the back of it as well with minimal issues occurring.

It is also important that pressure, temp, and time are all set properly for the press. Failure to complete the setup properly can result in negative effects such as cracking or under curing a garment, which can also lead to wash durability issues. In this section, we go over how-to setup the press the proper way at the time of install. Please note that on occasion you may have to verify the temperature setting or the pressure is adequate for the press.

KEY LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Garment Dressing Methods
- Installing Non-Stick Wraps
- Setting Defaults
- Adjusting the Pressure

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION:

Please see your Instruction Manual that came with your press.

GARMENT DRESSING METHODS:

In this section, we will go over the different methods for dressing a garment. This is important because how we dress the garment can affect a variety of items. For example; it can affect pass through to the back of a garment, minimizing a pretreat halo, and over-curing when printing front and back.

- What happens when we set the garment on a press and cure it without dressing?
- How to dress or thread a garment onto a press.
- What type of setup is needed in order dress a garment?
- How to pretreat then dress a garment to minimize halo.
- How to load a garment in to avoid creases in the ink for the finished product.
- How to load specialty garments; and things to consider.

INSTALLING NON-STICK COVERS OR USING SHEETS:

If you purchased a MAXX2G heat press the machine will come with non-stick covers that can be installed. If your using another type of heat press that does not come with attached covers, you can purchase non-stick sheets to use in place of the covers. We will go over how to install these non-stick covers, and why to use a cover and sheet.

- What are non-stick covers and sheets?
- Where can I get them if I do not have any?
- How to install the covers.
- How to use the sheets.
- What will need to be done periodically to maintain the covers/sheets?
- What can be done to minimize needing to clean these items?

SETTING DEFAULTS:

Once it is established that covers have been installed, or that non-stick sheets will be used we can move to setting any defaults for the heat press. Some presses will have options to set more than one saved setting for time and temperature. We will cover the basics of how to do this with the MAXX2G to set the temp and time for pretreat cure and those used for the ink cure. We will discuss the same basic settings for a press that rates off pounds of pressure that is run off air, as well. We will also touch on testing the press to ensure it is reading and performing accurately.

- What are the default settings?
- Why are these settings needed?
- How to input these settings into the MAXX2G.
- How to input base settings for another press that is air driven.
- When to verify the settings on the press are still within spec.
- How to verify the settings are still in spec.

ADJUSTING THE PRESSURE AT SETUP:

In this scenario we will go over how-to setup the pressure for the MAXX2G manual two gear press. All presses will vary so we will go over what is the common way to tell that a press is clamping hard enough or soft enough. Heavy pressure is needed to cure pretreat while light pressure is needed to cure ink.

- How to set the MAXX2G from when it is removed from the box.
- Where the locking nut needs to be set and where the tolerance will be.
- What is a common way to tell if I have enough pressure for pretreat cure and then for ink cure?
- What settings will I need to use if I am using a digital press?

FOR ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL SUPPORT INFORMATION:

[GTX Support Videos](#)

[GTX Drivers/Firmware](#)