

Digital Negative Links

**Just for reference nothing here is required for the workshop!*

Books

Cyanotype: The Blueprint in Contemporary Practice

By Christina Z Anderson

<https://www.amazon.com/Cyanotype-Blueprint-Contemporary-Alternative-Photography/>

The Book of Alternative Photographic Processes

By Christopher James

<https://www.amazon.com/Book-Alternative-Photographic-Processes/>

Cyanotype chapter available to download: <https://christopherjames-studio.com/sample-chapters>

Easy Digital Negatives: Historical and Alternative Photography

By Peter Mrhar

<http://www.easydigitalnegatives.com/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Easy-Digital-Negatives-Alternative-Photography/>

Digital Negatives with QuadToneRIP: Demystifying QTR for Photographers and Printmakers

by Ron Reeder, Christina Anderson

**This is for using the QuadToneRIP system www.quadtonerip.com (only Epson printers)*

<https://www.amazon.com/Digital-Negatives-QuadToneRIP-Demystifying-Photographers/>

Mike Ware free technical books:

http://www.mikeware.co.uk/mikeware/New_Cyanotype_Process.html

Alternative Process “cheat sheets”

<https://www.alternativeprocesses.org/ap-cheat-sheets>

Transparency Materials

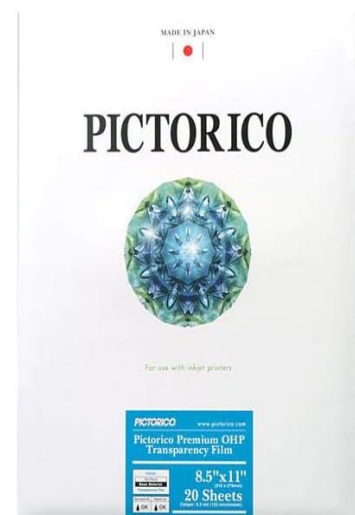
Fixxons Negative Film

Waterproof Positive Film for Silk Screen is not noticeably different from the version for digital negatives and works well for digital negatives especially if you are experimenting. The emulsion is not functionally waterproof - but the ink does not run.

Pictorico Pro Ultra Premium OHP Transparency Film

**Transparency/clear not their “white film”*

The standard version appears to be discontinued or back-ordered in most places. The “Pro” version may be more available.



Arista II Inkjet OHP Transparency Film

It comes in different weights. I have used the 7mil.

<https://www.freestylephoto.com/39382-Arista-II-Inkjet-OHP-7-mil-Transparency-Film-8.5x11-20->

Gold Up Waterproof Inkjet Transparency Film for Silk Screen Printing - Least expensive

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B07S5GKGSJ/ref>

Fixxons vs. Pictorico analysis https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7fzAOhTIs_o

Inkjet Printers

Here is an article comparing several printers for printing digital negatives.

<https://toptenreviewed.com/best-printers-for-digital-negatives/>

Canon Pro 1000 vs. Epson P900 (according to the internet)

Canon Pro 1000

Has suction paper feed (reduces pizza wheel scratches on negatives).

Canon has replaceable print heads so if one gets clogged it is an easier fix.

Ink may be less expensive.

Epson P900

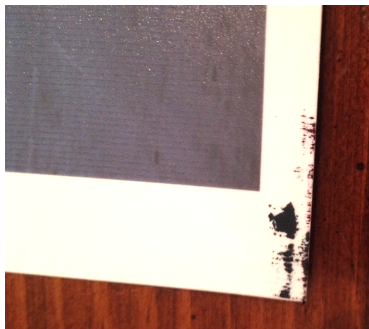
Quadtone Rip may only work on Epson printers (a complicated system for making digital negative curves).

Has smaller dots and a “much higher printing resolution”

More prone to clogging if not used regularly (that may be less of an issue with these newer models).

Printer Troubleshooting

Every printer will have its own quirks and issues when it comes to printing digital negatives.



Head strike - If the print head collides with the paper it can leave a big ink mark. This is most common on the edge of the paper but can happen anywhere, especially with curled paper or transparency.

-Try increasing the “platen gap” - instructions for this will be printer specific.

Epson: File > Print > Print Settings > Advanced Media Control

Banding - horizontal stripes in the print, as if a line of printing was skipped.

First, try printing a nozzle check pattern on a piece of clean scrap paper to see if any inks are clogged. If sections are spotty or missing run a head cleaning cycle. After head-cleaning print a new nozzle check to see if the clogs have cleared. Run up to two cycles, if that does not fix the problem, let it sit for several hours or overnight. Sometimes that new ink takes time to sink in and clear out the clogs.

If no clogs are clear but banding is still occurring. Turn off "high speed". If this helps, it may be good to run a realignment cycle.

*Nozzle check, head cleaning, and realignment will be printer-specific, but can often be found in a maintenance folder in the menu on the printer.

Chemical Suppliers

Artcraft Chemicals
NY, USA
<http://www.artcraftchemicals.com>
artcraft@peoplepc.com

Bostick & Sullivan
NM, USA
<http://www.bostick-sullivan.com/>
orderinfo@earthlink.net

Jacquard Products
Chemicals, kits, pre-coated paper and fabric.
www.jacquardproducts.com/cyanotype
Photographers' Formulary
MT, USA
<http://www.photoformulary.com/>
formulary@montana.com

Silverprint Ltd
<http://www.silverprint.co.uk/>
sales@silverprint.co.uk
<https://cyanotype.co.uk/>

**If you know of any I have not listed, especially international please let me know!*

Sunlight Exposure

List of other artists' exposure times all over the world at different times of the year.

<https://www.alternativephotography.com/the-big-cyanotype-exposure-survey-results/>

UV Exposure lights for homemade boxes/setups:

- Must be a UV light
- Wavelength is important, the best for alternative processes is around 365nm-395nm, and efficiency drops as it gets closer to 400nm.
- You want the light to evenly cover the full area of the largest print you intend to make.

More info on UV wavelengths:

<https://www.waveformlighting.com/tech/what-is-the-difference-between-365-nm-and-395>

UV lights and UV boxes designed for screenprinting work well. Some have lights on the bottom and the print is placed face-down on glass. This system does not work for photograms of 3D objects.

Basic inexpensive UV lights:

https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B0BZYBKHNM/ref=ox_sc

-limited print size

<https://www.amazon.com/Exposure-Printing-Retractable-Adjustable-Cyanotypes>

-limited print size

<https://www.amazon.com/Everbeam-Black-Light-Flood-395nm>

-limited print size, 365nm is more efficient/faster

Small prints or to create shadows

https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B01IAPUH68/ref=ox_sc

Exposure units:

Metal boxes are often used (not required) because they become a heat-sink for the lights which can get hot. An exposure unit box or casing can be made out of something as simple as a black plastic tote/bin. The lights can be attached to the lid or flip it over and connect the lights to the bottom. AS little as 4 in from lights to paper - this may take some trial and error depending on the lights.

<https://www.amazon.com/Barrina-BlackLight-Integrated-Blacklight-Atmosphere>

-Easy to mount and connect, no soldering needed

-The plastic protective covering can cause lines in prints, it is recommended to cut this off using an exacto knife.

These are probably faster/more efficient:

<https://store.waveformlighting.com/products/real-uv-led-strip-lights?variant=12527605252198>

This is what I used for my homemade exposure unit: [Super Bright 60 Watts UV Black Light LED Strip](#)

(cyanotype exposure 30 min+)

9 inches from lights to contact frame glass.

I laser-cut the sides of the box and connected them with Unistrut. I had extra help spicing and reconnecting the LED strips to get them to lay flat like this.

I plugged it into a standard darkroom timer.



Pre-made/complete UV boxes:

<http://www.eepjon.com/uv.htm> - not LED

<https://shop.inkjetmall.com/Exposure-Systems>

<https://www.workhorseproducts.com/exposure-units/>

- Face-down print format, can come with a vacuum seal lid.

\$\$\$\$ -expensive

-4.5 inches from lights to paper