

The Silk Experience

presents

SILK SCREENING - THE EASY WAY

WITH GINNY ECKLEY

Welcome to this demo version of my virtual workshop. It's identical to the real thing except there are no videos included and many pages have been deleted to make it a smaller document. But most of the links work, there's lots of good info inside, and it should give you a clear idea of what to expect from the full version.

Enjoy!

Greetings!

And welcome to our workshop on Silk Screening the Easy Way.

Within these interactive pages, you'll find the following features. Click on any **Go!** Button to go directly to that feature.

How to use this Virtual Workshop.

[Go!](#)

An overview of the silk-screen process, with **video** demonstrations.

[Go!](#)

A complete listing of materials, resources, and contact links.

[Go!](#)

Tips, troubleshooting, fabric and pattern ideas, and advanced techniques.

[Go!](#)

Printable process outlines and **full-size silk-screen patterns**.

[Go!](#)

A gallery of example printings.

[Go!](#)

Detailed information about
The Silk Experience
and links its many other projects.

[Go!](#)

Video Gallery

Process Overviews

Click any image to start a video demonstration



Create or choose any black and white design...



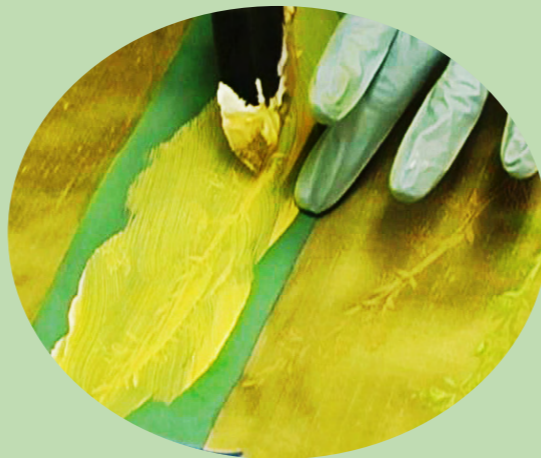
Trace or print the design onto transparency film...



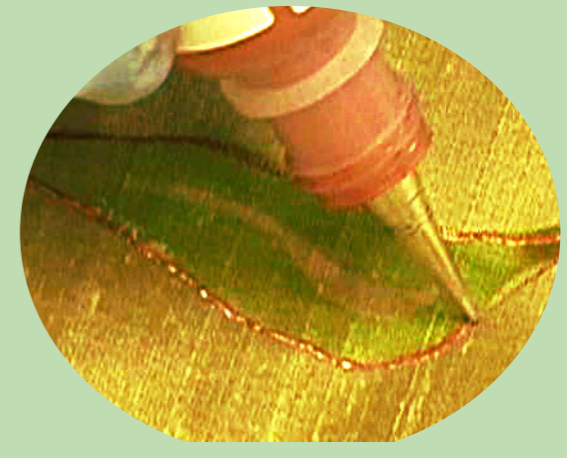
Transfer the image from the transparency to a PhotoEZ silk screen using sunlight or a lightbox...



Mix ColorHue Instant-Set dye with ordinary shaving cream for increased body and print with it through your screen...



Mix and print with Lumiere metallic fabric paints, then clean up easily...



Explore special effects and multi-layered printings.



Supplies and Sources

Links and addresses for non-household items are on the following pages.

Equipment you'll need:

Workspace

Plastic- or newsprint-covered tabletop or work surface
Nearby water source and a tray or basin large enough for your screens
Iron and ironing board to prepare fabric for printing
Paper Towels, synthetic sponges, household cleansers for clean up

Tools

Disposable rubber gloves
Plastic cups or bowls for mixing colors
Pellon Thermolam sheet for padding the fabric during printing
1" or 1 1/2" Low-Tack Painter's Tape (blue) to hold screens while printing
Natural Sea Sponges & SimpleGreen for preparing and cleaning screens
Eye droppers or pipettes for transferring dyes
Sponge brushes and/or squeegees for applying color to screens

Materials

PhoteEZ Silk Screen prepared screens

— OR —

(...if designing your own screens:)

PhoteEZ exposable Silk Screen film
Ready-to-trace or printable designs
Write-On or Printable Transparency film
Opaque black marking pens

Paint or Dye

Foaming Shaving Cream in aerosol can

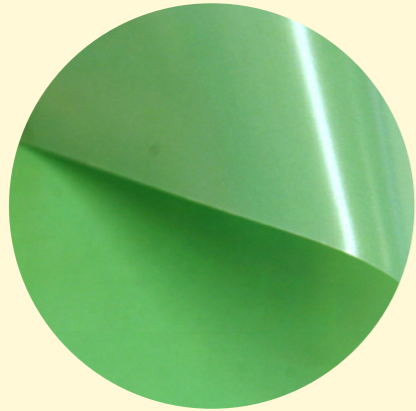
Fabric and/or garments to print on; smooth surfaces work best!

See **Tips** for a more detailed discussion of suitable fabrics.



Supplies and Sources

Click any violet text to go directly to the corresponding website



PhotoEZ Silk Screens and Supplies

Ginny Eckley

2423 Kings Forest Drive

Kingwood TX 77339

www.photoezsilkscreen.com

Opaque Black Markers

The following brands will work:

[uni-Paint](#), [DecoColor](#)

[Sharpie Pens](#) not recommended!



More sources
in complete
version



ColorHue Instant-Set Dyes

Things Japanese

9805 NE 116 St, PMB 7160

Kirkland, WA 98034-4248

www.silkthings.com

Transparency film

Available at most office-supply
outlets, online or otherwise:

[Staples](#), [OfficeMax](#), [Amazon](#)



Exposing the PhotoEZ

THE KEY TO PERFECT SCREENS IS PERFECT EXPOSURES

Practice on small pieces to find the right exposure time for your lighting conditions:

Cut a 3" x 3" test piece of PhotoEZ and test it.

Developing PhotoEZ on a Light Box, as shown in the video gallery:

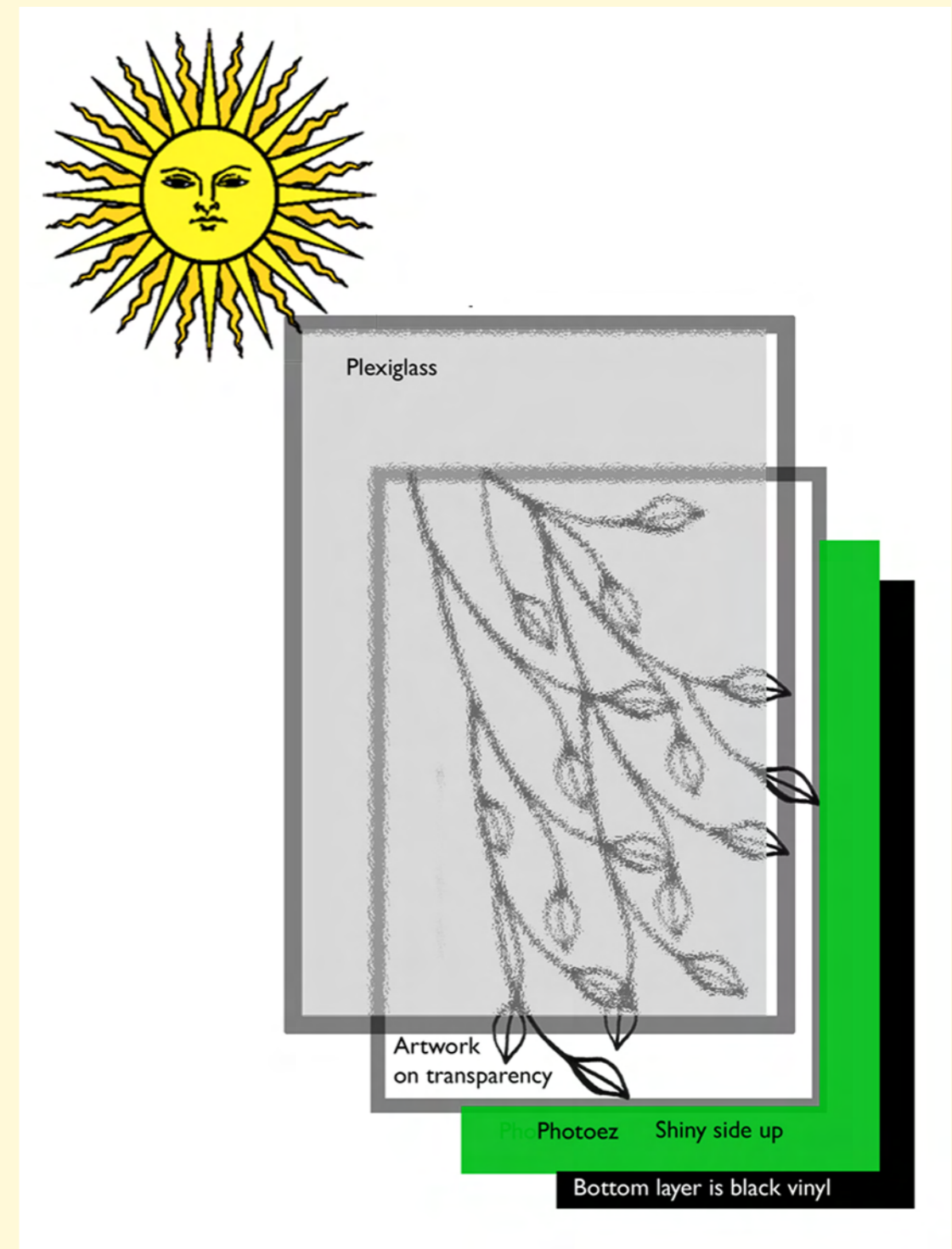
You will need black vinyl, and flat plywood or plastic the size of your design or larger, and a timer. The black keeps the light out, and the wood or plastic adds weight for a clearer image. Have everything ready and prepare in a dimly lit area, as the film is light sensitive. Once the film is opened, you will want to work quickly.

1. Place your transparency on top of the light box. The direction it faces is the way it will appear once it is printed, so position text so it will be readable.
2. Remove the film from the plastic bag. Bend back a corner and remove the plastic cover sheet, which protects the SHINY, emulsion side.
3. Place the shiny side of the film on top of the transparency.
4. Smooth the 2 layers together. Cover with black vinyl, then lay plastic or wood on top to secure the layers. Repeat steps 1-4 if you are developing more than one design on the light box.
5. Lay a piece of black fabric over the light table.
6. Set timer. For 20-Watt bulbs, 12 minutes usually works; for 30-watt bulbs, try 8 minutes. Make sure the timer is ticking!!!
7. Remove exposed film from the light box, checking the color of the design areas; it should be greenish yellow. Completely submerge film in a flat tray of water and soak for 10 minutes.
8. Lay the PhotoEZ film on a flat tray. Tilt the tray at a 30° angle, and using a natural sea sponge, remove the softened film from the design areas. Rinse with water and gently sponge dry.
9. The film needs to be put back on the light box or in the sun to dry and harden the film. If placed on the light box, this usually takes at least 12 minutes.

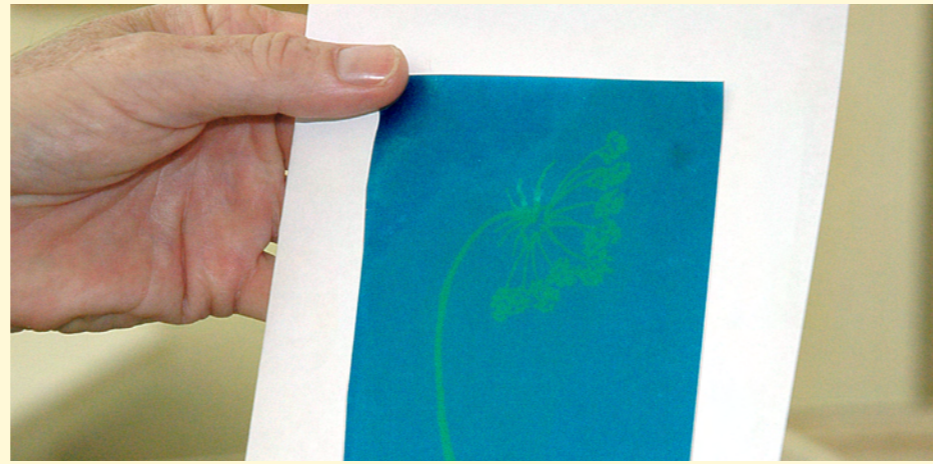


Developing PhotoEZ outside in direct sunlight

1. Inside in dim light, remove the protective plastic sheet from the emulsion (shiny) side: bend a corner back and forth, until the plastic sheet separates from the green PhotoEZ sheet.
2. Place the PhotoEZ emulsion (shiny) side up on the black vinyl.
3. Place your graphic right side down on top of the PhotoEZ. Transparencies printed using with heavy or dark black ink setting work best.
4. Place a sheet of clear acrylic or glass over the graphic and PhotoEZ. The layers from bottom to top are:
Black vinyl, PhotoEZ, art transparency, plexiglass.
5. Move outside and expose to the sun for 30 seconds. After the 30 seconds, cover with a towel to prevent overexposing.



More ▶



6. To check if your image has been fully exposed, remove the acrylic or glass sheet, and partially lift the transparency. Wherever the black lines of your image were, there will be a bright greenish-yellow lines on the green or blue PhotoEZ sheet when properly exposed.
7. Completely immerse the exposed screen in water and soak it for 10 minutes.
8. Lay the screen on a flat surface, and using a natural sea sponge or soft paint brush, remove the exposed area.
9. Rinse in water.
10. Lay the screen flat and pat it dry. Re-expose the entire screen to the sun for a minimum of 10 minutes until dry on both sides. Once fully developed, PhotoEZ is no longer light sensitive.



TROUBLE SHOOTING

Image on stencil, but not washing out completely

1. Overexposed, reduce exposure time.
2. Design not dark enough; If light passes through the printed or written areas of your transparency, the screen will be overexposed. All black design lines should be opaque.
3. Light may be diffusing behind PhotoEZ. Make sure to place a dark, opaque sheet behind the PhotoEZ when exposing it to light.

No Image at all, entire stencil is green

1. Protective plastic film not removed.
2. Make sure the design is placed between the light source & PhotoEZ.
3. The PhotoEZ was exposed to heat or light before exposure. Store undeveloped PhotoEZ in a cool place in the closed black bag. It will keep in the fridge for 6 months.

Entire stencil washes away leaving only the mesh

1. Light source doesn't have enough ultra violet or the timing is too short.
2. Protective plastic film was left on.
3. Design is printed on something that doesn't allow enough light to pass through, like thick paper. Use transparency materials.



TROUBLE SHOOTING

Fine details wash away

1. Design not opaque enough.
2. Exposure not long enough.
3. Graphic not in full contact with PhotoEZ.

Some areas not washing away

1. Light source not distributing evenly over entire surface of PhotoEZ. Try using larger light source or more bulbs. Bulbs should have 2" of space between one another.

Image is fuzzy

1. Design making poor contact with PhotoEZ. Make sure there are no air pockets in between design and PhotoEZ.

Film lifting off mesh

1. Underexposed, leaving film too soft. Try longer exposure time.
2. Too vigorous washout. Rub gently.
3. Light source not perpendicular to PhotoEZ.



TROUBLE SHOOTING

Paint bleeds under stencil

1. Paint not thick enough. Use thicker paint or try spraying the paint.
2. Stencil not making good enough contact with the surface. Tape stencil to surface with low tack tape, such as stencil tape or blue masking tape.

Paint not going through mesh

1. Dried paint clogging the mesh. Use Simple Green to clean.
2. Paint is too thick. Thin paint with water or solvent.
3. Paint contains sparkles or particles too large to go through mesh. Many paints will not go through the high resolution version of PhotoEZ.



Don't hesitate to contact me if you're having any other problems using PhotoEZ silk screens!

—Ginny Eckley

We hope you are enjoying

SILK SCREENING - THE EASY WAY

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Please feel free to contact us!

Direct any comments and queries
on the contents or surface-design techniques to
Ginny at

www.photoezsilkscreen.com
sales@photoezsilkscreen.com

and any comments or queries on the technologies
involved in the presentation of the material on the
CD itself, to David at

www.myvirtualworkshop.com
dpcoffin@earthlink.net

*Thanks to Maggie Backman at
www.silkthings.com*

for creating The Silk Experience and making this happen!

...and thanks for joining us!