

# 5 MISTAKES TO AVOID WHEN USING A HEAT PRESS



## QUALITY HEAT PRESS.

All heat presses are not created equal. A cheap heat press can lead to uneven pressure and heat across the surface of the press, and that will lead to inconsistent results when pressing. Investing in a quality press from a reputable dealer will save you money and frustration in the long run.



ITEM #UN4835



## FOLLOW TECH TIPS.

Make sure you follow the tech tips for each transfer type that you are using. Just like a baker needs to follow the recipe for a cake, you'll need to use the right time, temperature, and pressure for the item you're pressing and the paper you're using. Johnson Plastics Plus has tech tips, specific settings for each product, and more available at [JPPlus.com](http://JPPlus.com).



## USING ACCESSORIES.

When working with a double-sided item, you'll want to put something between the layers to make sure your art doesn't bleed through. You'll also want to have blowout paper and heat tape readily available. Blowout paper protects your heat platen from getting any ink on it, and heat tape allows you to hold your art in place to avoid the art shifts and causes blurry lines (called "ghosting").



## RAISING PRINT AREA.

A pressure pad raises the transfer area so that you can avoid uneven spots around seams, zippers, buttons, collars and other obstructions. If you have buttons or zippers on your apparel that stick up above your transfer area, the heat press platen itself won't allow you to apply even pressure to your transfer. A pressure pad under your item will allow for some "give" and help provide better results on those items.



## PRE-PRESS WHEN NECESSARY.

When pressing to a garment or other textiles, you'll also want to get in the habit of pre-pressing the item. Think of it like ironing. Pre-pressing apparel smooths out any wrinkles and removes any extra moisture from the item. Simply give the item a quick press for three to five seconds.