

## Photo Slate

**JOHNSON**PLASTICS  
PLUS

### PHOTO SLATE - Sublimation

PS000 | PS001 | PS002 | PS004 | PS005 | PS006 | PS007 | PS008 | PS009 | PS010 | SF64 | PS41 | PS42



## GENERAL SUBLIMATION PROCESS

### Recommended Equipment & Accessories

- Sublimation Printer
- Standard Flat Heat Press- Swing-away style press recommended
- **REQUIRED:** Nomex Felt Pad, Green Sponge Heat Pad, or (2x) White Silicone Pressure pads
- Alcohol and clean cloth
- Heat Tape
- Blowout paper
- Heat gloves or oven mitts

Recommended settings in the charts below are intended for photo slates approx. 5/16" thick.

**For photo slates 3/8" thick, increase press times by 1 minute.**

Recommended Settings – Small Photo Slate - PS000, PS004, PS005			
Pad Type	Time (Minutes)	Temperature	Pressure
(2x) White Silicone Pressure Pads	10.5 – 11.5	370-375°F	Medium
Green Sponge Heat Pad	7.5 – 8.5	385-390°F	Medium
Nomex Felt Pad	6 – 7	385-390°F	Medium

Recommended Settings – Medium Photo Slate - PS001, PS006, PS007, PS009, PS41, SF64			
Pad Type	Time (Minutes)	Temperature	Pressure
(2x) White Silicone Pressure Pads	11 – 12	370-375°F	Medium
Green Sponge Heat Pad	8 – 9	385-390°F	Medium
Nomex Felt Pad	7 – 8	385-390°F	Medium

Recommended Settings – Large Photo Slate - PS002, PS42, PS010, PS211.75			
Pad Type	Time (Minutes)	Temperature	Pressure
(2x) White Silicone Pressure Pads	12 – 13	370-375°F	Medium
Green Sponge Heat Pad	8.5 – 9.5	385-390°F	Medium
Nomex Felt Pad	8 – 9	385-390°F	Medium

Recommended Settings – Coasters/Coaster Set - PS008			
Pad Type	Time (Minutes)	Temperature	Pressure
(2x) White Silicone Pressure Pads	5 – 6	370-375°F	Medium
Green Sponge Heat Pad	4.5 – 5.5	385-390°F	Medium
Nomex Felt Pad	4 – 5	385-390°F	Medium

### General Sublimation Instructions

- Preheat the heat press to 370-375°F or 385-390°F (as recommended for the photo slate item number).
- Set the time to the recommended press time.
- Set pressure to medium.
  - The pressure setting should be set with the photo slate and pad included in the press.
- Print the image onto sublimation paper using a sublimation printer.
  - For edge-to-edge graphics, size the image to be large enough to bleed past the “distressed” white edges of the photo slate.
    - The recommended bleed amount should be at least 1/8” or more, past the “distressed” white edges of the photo slate.
  - Print on sublimation paper large enough for the white paper space around the printed image to wrap around the edges of the photo slate.
    - The paper only needs to wrap around two sides of the photo slate blank. The other edges of the paper can be trimmed shorter, if needed.
- Clean the white surface of the blank photo slate with a clean cloth lightly misted with alcohol.
- Place the photo slate blank (white side) face down onto the printed image. Center the image onto the white surface of the photo slate blank.
- Wrap the two long ends of the transfer paper around the edges of the photo slate blank. Secure the edges of the wrapped paper onto the back side of the photo slate blank with heat tape.
- If using White Silicone Pressure Pads:
  - Place a piece of blowout paper onto the bottom of the heat press platen.
  - Place the photo slate with attached transfer sheet **face-up** onto the blowout paper.
  - Place another piece of blowout paper onto the transfer sheet.
  - Place 2 layers of the white silicone pressure pads on top of the blowout paper.
- If using Green Sponge Heat Pad:
  - Place a piece of blowout paper onto the bottom of the heat press platen.
  - Place the photo slate with attached transfer sheet **face-up** onto the blowout paper.
  - Place another piece of blowout paper onto the transfer sheet.
  - Place the green sponge heat pad on top of the blowout paper.
- If using the Nomex Felt Pad:
  - Place the Nomex felt pad onto the bottom heat press platen.
  - Place 1-2 pieces of blowout paper onto the Nomex felt pad.
  - Place the photo slate with attached transfer sheet **face-down** onto the blowout paper.

- Place another piece of blowout paper onto the back of the photo slate.
  - Close and press for recommended time.
  - When finished, open the heat press and carefully remove the photo slate using heat gloves or oven mitt. Remove the transfer paper and discard. Set the photo slate aside to cool.
    - Allow the photo slate to air cool. **DO NOT** submerge the photo slate into water to speed up the cooling process.
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### Tips and Tricks

- For best image placement, utilize the product template found on the product page on JPPlus.com.
  - After the heat press has heated to the press temperature, close and press the heat press empty for at least 3-5 minutes to allow the bottom platen to heat up.
    - Heating the bottom platen often helps balance the transfer of heat from the top heat platen to the product blank, ensuring a more successful transfer of the sublimation image to the product surface.
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### Troubleshooting

- The image came out light and/or faded.
  - The time setting may need to be increased.
  - The temperature setting may need to be increased.
  - The pressure setting on the press or wrap may be too light and need to be increased for better contact between the sublimation transfer paper and the surface of the product.
  - The press or oven may not be heating at the temperature set on the display.
  - The sublimated image may have been printed on the wrong side of the sublimation paper.
- The image colors are dull on the sublimated product.
  - The press/heat time may need to be decreased.
  - The press/heat temperature may need to be decreased.
  - The print settings may need to be adjusted. Also check that the proper paper type and/or color profile is selected before printing the image.
- The image colors are not correct on the sublimated product.
  - The print settings may need to be adjusted. Also check that the proper paper type and/or color profile is selected before printing the image.
  - Convert the colors used in the image to RGB color mode in the design/layout software before printing.
  - If spot colors are used in the image (common for logos), convert the spot colors to RGB color mode in the design/layout software before printing.
- The sublimation paper is brown and sticking to the product.
  - The press/heat time may need to be decreased.
  - The press/heat temperature may need to be decreased.

- The pressure setting may need to be decreased.
    - Use of a different sublimation paper brand or type may be needed for the particular product.
  - The sublimated image appears blurry or fuzzy.
    - The pressure setting may need to be increased.
    - The sublimation transfer paper may need to be secured to the product to prevent the paper from moving.
    - The sublimatable coating on the product may be defective.
  - The sublimation blank sticks to the top of the heat press when it is opened.
    - Place an additional piece of blowout paper or Teflon sheet on top of the sublimation blank and/or transfer paper before closing the press. This will help protect the surface of the product or transfer sheet, as well as prevent the vacuum effect that can cause the item to stick to the top platen when first opening the press.
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### **Templates and Images**

- Visit [jpplus.com](https://jpplus.com) to find the product page for this item. The product template may be found under the Tech Docs and Downloads area of the page.
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For additional product support and troubleshooting, please contact JPPlus Advanced Support Team:

- Phone: 419-500-4877
- Email: [ast@jpplus.com](mailto:ast@jpplus.com)
- Schedule an appointment: <https://jpplusadvancedsupport.setmore.com/>