

Print Methods Explained

Overview of screen printing, heat transfer, embroidery, DTG/DTF methods.

- [Screen Printing](#)
- [Heat Transfer / HTV](#)
- [Embroidery](#)
- [DTG / DTF](#)

Screen Printing

Screen Printing

Traditional screen printing is ideal for large quantities and bold, vibrant designs. Ink is pushed through a mesh screen onto the garment, creating durable, long-lasting prints.

Best For

- Large quantity orders (24+ pieces)
- Bold, solid-color designs
- Maximum durability and wash resistance
- Pantone color matching

Considerations

- Each color requires a separate screen (setup cost per color)
- Not ideal for photographic or gradient-heavy designs
- Most cost-effective at higher quantities

Heat Transfer / HTV

Heat Transfer / HTV

Heat transfer vinyl is great for small quantities, names, numbers, and multi-color designs. Vinyl is cut and heat-pressed onto the garment.

Best For

- Small quantities (1-24 pieces)
- Individual names and numbers
- Multi-color designs without screen setup costs
- Metallic, glitter, and specialty finishes

Considerations

- Not as cost-effective at very high quantities
- Best for simple shapes and text
- Requires proper care (inside-out washing recommended)

Embroidery

Embroidery

Embroidery gives a professional, textured look ideal for polos, hats, and corporate wear. Thread is stitched directly into the garment for a premium finish.

Best For

- Corporate apparel and uniforms
- Hats, beanies, and bags
- Polo shirts and jackets
- Professional, upscale branding

Considerations

- Design complexity affects pricing (stitch count)
- Very fine details may not translate well
- Best for logos and text, not photographic images

DTG / DTF

DTG / DTF Printing

Direct-to-garment (DTG) and direct-to-film (DTF) printing allows full-color photographic prints with no minimum quantity.

Best For

- Full-color, photographic designs
- Small quantities (even single pieces)
- Designs with many colors or gradients
- On-demand and sample production

DTG vs. DTF

- **DTG:** Prints directly onto the garment. Works best on 100% cotton, light-colored fabrics.
- **DTF:** Prints onto a transfer film, then applied with heat press. Works on virtually any fabric type or color.