



SOLAR FAST™ Class Pack

Instructions

Short VERSION

1. Apply SolarFast to fabric.
2. Place and secure film with pins, or place objects on coated fabric.
3. Expose to sunlight 10-24 minutes.
4. Wash with SolarFast Wash.

You are done—admire your print!



Class Pack Contents

- 4 - 8 oz bottles SolarFast dye:
 - Orange • Red
 - Violet • Blue
- 90 - Sponges, for applying SolarFast dyes—
one for each color for each participant
(3 sponges per participant)
- 5 - Film Markers, for drawing on film
- Gloves, enough for 30 participants
- 40 - Sheets of film, 8.5" x 5.5", one for every
student with 10 extra
- 30 - 8.5" x 5.5" sheets cotton sateen fabric, for
making test prints
- 30 - 8.5" x 5.5" backer-boards, for inserting in
T-shirts/backing fabric
- 1 - 8 oz bottle SolarFast Wash, for washing prints
- 150 - Wire pins, for securing film negatives
- Instructions

Full VERSION

I. Applying the dye

Use the provided backer-boards as a work surface. Place the fabric on top of the backer-board before applying the dye. If working on T-shirts, use the backer-boards as inserts to keep dye from bleeding through to the back of the shirt. The fabric can be secured to the board with the provided pins. (The pins may also be used to secure objects or film.)

Apply SolarFast with the provided sponges. You may also use a brush or brayer. For hard edges, use masking tape to create a window the size of your image. For brushed edges, simply brush out the dye beyond the frame of your print. SolarFast is just thick enough to prevent bleeding—it will not creep under your masked areas, and it can be applied through a stencil. An even coating of dye will produce the best prints.*

SolarFast prints must be made while the dye is still wet, but you do not want to over saturate the fabric: if the fabric is TOO wet during exposure, condensation may form beneath the negative, which can interfere with development. You want the dye to absorb into the fabric rather than sitting on top of the fabric surface. To avoid over wetting, blot absorbent fabric or paper with a paper towel or rag.

*SolarFast may also be applied through a spray bottle (thin first with water, up to 50%).

For more suggestions on how to apply SolarFast to your substrate, see “Tips and Tricks” on Jacquard's website: www.jacquardproducts.com/solarfast.html.

2. Creating an image

▪ Use SolarFast as a paint:

SolarFast may be used on its own like any other paint. The dyes can be thinned with water or used directly out of the bottle. Simply brush the dye onto fabric and, while it is still wet, bring it outside. The color will magically appear when the painting is exposed to sunlight!

▪ Making prints with objects:

SolarFast may also be used to create photograms and shadow prints. Place any object on the coated fabric prior to exposure. Anything that casts a shadow will produce an image. Flat and opaque objects such as keys, tools, leaves or ribbons work best. You can use the provided pins to secure lightweight objects, like plants, and keep them from blowing away (make sure the film print side is up). You may also place the provided film over flat objects and secure it with pins—this may produce deeper shades of color.

Just remember that there are no rules: go ahead and experiment with all different types of objects. As long as there is decent sunlight, you will always get an interesting print!

▪ Making prints from drawings:

Use the provided Film Markers to draw directly onto the provided film. *IMPORTANT: the film is sided (it has a “print side” and a “waterproof side”), and the Film Marker may only be used on the side that feels slightly sticky to the touch (the print side). Wet your fingers and pinch the film to determine which side is the print side. This is the side to draw on, and this side goes face up when making a SolarFast print.* The Film Marker is designed to dry fast on the film, and the ink is completely opaque. Once the drawing is complete, place it over fabric that has been coated with SolarFast on the backer-board (waterproof side down, print side up), and secure it with the provided pins. Expose to sunlight for 10-24 minutes. Bring the print inside before removing the film and revealing the image. The same piece of film may be used over and over again to make multiple prints. Wipe the waterproof side with a damp rag between prints if it gets dye on it.

▪ Making photographic prints:

To create permanent photographic prints, use a film negative. Negatives may be printed on the provided film though any inkjet printer. Higher contrast images work best, and high density is key: the blackest areas of a negative should be completely opaque, and the lightest areas should be transparent for a good print. Layer two negatives for extra contrast or if your printer outputs less ink. Place the negative waterproof side down (print side up) on your coated fabric. Use the provided pins to secure the negative in place and keep it flush with the coated fabric.

To easily turn photographs into negatives, visit the SolarFast Negative Generator at www.jacquardsolarfast.com.

For more creative ideas on how to create images for your SolarFast prints, see “Tips and Tricks” on Jacquard's website: www.jacquardproducts.com/solarfast.html.

3. Exposing your print

Expose your coated fabric to sunlight for 10 to 20 minutes, depending on the weather conditions. Prints made late or early in the day, during winter months or on overcast or cloudy days will require longer exposures. The best time to make SolarFast prints is in the middle of the day, when the sun is directly overhead. Use direct sunlight whenever possible. You can watch the color appear, which will give you some indication of the exposure's progress. Keep in mind that your final result will not be revealed until after you have washed the print. SolarFast develops in the presence of UV light. You may use artificial light to make an exposure, but the time required will depend on the UV output of the bulb. Do a test first to determine the appropriate exposure time.

For more information on exposing your print, see "Tips and Tricks" on Jacquard's website: www.jacquardproducts.com/solarfast.html.

4. Washing

After exposing, you must remove the undeveloped dye by washing. Use the SolarFast Wash for best results. Color development is not complete until after washing. White areas of the print will also become whiter with washing. Bring the print inside (away from sunlight) before removing the negative. You may also store your print in a dark, cool place between exposure and washing, if necessary. Machine washing is recommended, but prints may also be hand washed. Use SolarFast Wash (3-4 capfuls or 24 ml) and the hottest water possible. When hand washing, keep the print submerged and the water flowing for at least 10 minutes.

Now you are done!

Your print is soft to the touch, washable, lightfast and permanent.

Show us a picture—we'd love to see what you've made! Email it to service@jacquardproducts.com or post it to our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/jacquardproducts.