

Caulkins Graphics

Print Methods Pros and Cons

Heat Transfers

Pros-

Small orders can be easily done * Since design is printed using a large inkjet printer, photorealistic designs can be achieved * Personalizations such as names, ranks, squads, etc. can be easily done * Perfect for a quick solution for upcoming events and such.

Cons-

Heat transfers are not as durable as DTG or Screenprinted shirts * Designs will fade over a period of time * Proper washing techniques must be taken to prevent extreme fading or color bleeding * T shirts colors are limited to White and Ash Gray due to the way the heat transfer papers are designed * Transfers for dark colors are available, but we will not carry these due to extremely poor paper quality, design cracking and fading.

DTG Printing

Pros-

Printing can be done on light and dark colored t shirts * Shirts are as durable as screenprinted t shirts * Smaller orders can be achieved easily

Cons-

Inks used for printing are not as colorful and as vibrant as screenprinting or heat transfers

Screenprinting

Pros-

Works for light or dark colored garments * We use simulated process screenprinting which is extremely durable * Very cost effective for larger orders of 50 shirts or more * Inks used are very colorful and vibrant on darker shirts

Cons-

Not a cost effective method for shirt orders under 50 pieces

Choosing a method

Which method you choose will depend on what the shirts will be used for, how many shirts do you plan on purchasing and design style. If you have an upcoming event which requires just a few shirts that need to have a special design or personalizations, Heat transfers are a good method on white or ash gray t shirts. Heat Transfers are not good for Duty/Station shirts that will be worn on the job day after day. DTG is good for those who want a photorealistic design on dark t shirts and don't mind if the colors are not extremely flashy. For photorealistic designs with excellent colors/durability, screenprinting should be you method for larger shirt orders. This is also the method we recommend for Duty/Station shirts that will be under constant abuse. If you further questions regarding the print methods, contact Todd 515-669-9577 or todd@caulkinsgraphics.com