**IMAGE TRANSFER TECHNIQUES** Doerrer

**Acrylic Transfer:** Nearly any gel medium or acrylic paint will lift an image. Gel gloss medium and matte medium work well.

Images printed from a laser printer, toner based photocopy or ink jet printouts either on paper or transparencies work for this method. This method is good for paper, wood, fabric, canvas, etc.

2 options: #1: paint an even coat of gel medium over your image (ink side up) and let dry for at least an hour. Paint another coat and let dry. Flip image over and wet with a sponge. Gently rub away paper with your finger to reveal clear and “transparent” areas. The only thing left is the plastic and the ink bonded to it. Now add your transfer to your artwork by painting it in or biding it with more gel medium.

#2: Lay gel medium directly onto your receiver paper, canvas, etc. Place image face down into gel. Let dry for 2 hours or overnight. Wet the back of the image with a sponge. Gently rub away paper with your finger to reveal clear and “transparent” areas.

**Blender Pen Transfer:** Use a blender pen (I use Ad Markum Blender markers) to transfer images that are laser printed copies or photocopies only. Ink jet prints will NOT work with a blender pen. Lay image face down onto your support and cover the back of the printed image with the blender pen. Lift the photocopy and the image will be transferred to your support. Blender pens have a strong odor and can be toxic. Use in a well-ventilated room or go outside.

**Acetate Transfer:** With a laser copy or photocopy place image face down on wood or your support. Pour acetate over the image and burnish the back with a brayer, rolling pin, or back of a spoon. Lift off paper and image should remain on your support. Acetate can be toxic, use in a well-ventilated room or go outside. (By the way, nail polish remover will not work here.)

**Transparency Paper Transfer:** Inkjet printer only**.** Print your image on transparency film — *the kind for plain paper copiers, not the inkjet stuff.*

Something to transfer your image to — watercolor paper works well, but you could also try wood, or cardstock, canvas, etc. While your print is still plenty wet, position it face-down over the receiving paper. Carefully press it down flat, making sure not to move the paper underneath. Rub your hand (or roll the brayer) over the image to make sure all the ink transfers to the paper.

Don’t let anything shift around or it will smudge your image. Use one hand to transfer the ink and the other to hold the paper still. Lift the transparency and reveal the transferred image

**Caulking transfer:** It is very consistent and the final outcome is very stable and clean. Especially in assemblage pieces. For this you need Clear caulk. Toner, laser or ink jet printouts and a burnishing tool. This method is good for paper, wood and fabric.

**Packaging Tape Transfer:** Works with magazine pages and photocopies. Lay clear packaging tape over your image in clean flat rows. Overlap the edges of the tape. Soak image in a shallow bowl of water. Gently rub away the back of the paper with your finger.

**Heat transfer:** A finishing or tacking iron, clothes iron or a heat transfer tool that comes with some wood burning kits. Toner based copy. This method is good for wood and glass.

**Polaroid Film Transfer:** is an alternative photographic process using peel-apart Polaroid film. An image is exposed onto the film when you take a shot. Pull out the film from the camera, wait about 15 seconds, then pull the film apart before complete development. The dye-laden negative is rolled onto another surface, such as watercolor paper. The dyes develop onto the other surface and the image is "transferred." The image may then be manipulated and hand colored if desired. Each image is unique due to the physical properties of the transfer process. Polaroid image transfers provide an extremely versatile vehicle for the visual artist, allowing for images with a painterly quality, as well as for partially rendered images.

\*Make sure the film you are using is Polaroid “pull apart” films like PX100, PX600, and PX70, polacolor 669

**TIP:**

\*Remember to mirror the image in the copy machine or your printer if there is text or it will come out backwards when you transfer it.