

# Information Sheet StencilPro<sup>™</sup> Film Usage Guide



Safe handling

- CAUTION THIS PRODUCT IS AN ULTRA VIOLET LIGHT SENSITIVE MATERIAL
- Open protective black bag under subdued lighting conditions only. Do not expose undeveloped film to U.V. or direct sunlight at any time.
- Avoid exposure to bright artificial light sources, especially from fluroescent tubes as this will begin to expose the StencilPro<sup>TM</sup> film.
- Protect from excessive heat, freezing and high humidity. StencilPro<sup>TM</sup> film should be stored in an EZIscreen Opaque Storage Container, away from heat and light sources.

- StencilPro film is non-toxic and safe to handle, however any persons with sensitive skin should use rubber gloves when handling the undeveloped film.

- The film can tolerate a few minutes of exposure to light levels found in typical homes as long as the film is kept a minimum of 1.5 Metres away from artificial light sources and is never exposed to direct sunlight.
- Minimize exposure to fluorescent tubes, as they expose more U.V. energy than incandescent bulbs.
- Illuminate work area using yellow bug lights (60Watts or less) if additional light/ working time is required.
- Avoid putting fingerprints on or scratching the surface of the film before exposure.
- Fully developed stencils do not require protection from light.

## Making Your Stencil

1. Artwork

2. Prepare Film

Film may be used for exposure.

Gather your equipment

StencilPro<sup>™</sup> can be exposed using no extra materials at all, just sunlight and water, however for the best results your artwork should be printed on a clear Artwork Transparency, a Magnetic Exposure Frame should be used to tightly hold the artwork against the film during exposure and a timer set for exposure lengths. We recommend you have on hand the following items when exposing and developing:

- Artwork printed on EZIscreen Transparency sheet or tracing paper printed in a solid opaque black print
- Plastic Exposure Cover or Magnetic Exposure Frame holds artwork/ StencilPro flat during exposure
- · EZIscreen Opaque Storage Container to protect unexposed film before use and hold water for developing

Print, draw or copy your design onto the Artwork Transparency (you must use the coated side of the film - a wet finger will stick to the coated side). Artwork must be a solid print, to stop the light penetrating and hitting the film below during exposure. When using a printer, always change paper type to 'Transparency'.

If required, cut the film to size before use. Place the film onto the Exposure Frame - either side of StencilPro

The artwork transparency and StencilPro film must be held flat to ensure there are no wrinkles/lumps/

- EZIscreen Timer ensures correct exposure length
- EZIscreen Brush clean emulsion out of film after exposure

3. Expose - Plastic Exposure Cover (or optional Magnetic Exposure Frame)

Work in a dimly lit room, remember the film is light sensitive until after it has been exposed.

Do not use white copy paper for artwork, use Artwork Transparency or tracing paper only.

## Expose your design







## **Exposure guide**





marks/etc. that will result in a poor result. Use either the Plastic Exposure Cover or optional Magentic Frame, as per instructions. On an opaque background, place the artwork, StencilPro then secure the Cover. Once attached together you are reado to begin exposure. Cover immediately with the lid of the Opaque Storage Box to ensure the film does not begin to expose. Set your timer for the required exposure length then position the Exposure Frame under your light source.

A full StencilPro sheet fits the Large Plastic Frame, or cut sheet in half to fit the Small Plastic Frame.

- Remove the Opaque Storage Box Lid from the top to begin exposure.
- When exposure time has been reached, immediately cover the design to stop further exposure.

Due to variables that we can not control (time of day, UV strength) exposure times in the following table should be used as a relative guide only. See examples of test results and exposure times online.

Direct Sunligh	nt (a shadow mi	ust be cast)	Fluorescent Lights   Indoor   /	Artificial Daylight
Time of year	Standard	HiRes	Light type	Standard
Summer	25 sec.	20 sec.	Individual testing is required as time will vary on distant	
Winter	40 sec.	35 sec.	and strength of, light/ U.V. emitter online: www.EZIscreen.com	
Spring / Autumn	35 sec.	30 sec.	2 x 4200K 'Cool White' Fluro tubes at 25cm height above film	8 min. 30 sec.

• Sunlight exposure times above are 12pm with early morning/ afternoon exposures +5 seconds, always test first.

- Fluro Lamp: Distance from light source and age of fluorescent tubes will affect exposure times.
- Using tracing paper not a transparency for artwork? Increase your exposure time, always test first.

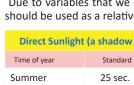
It's important you experiment with a small test piece (included with StencilPro sheet packs) first and always use the same artwork and light source to maintain consistency. This will enable you to quickly perfect times. See test results on exposure times online - www.EZIscreen.com/support/exposure



EZIscreen usage and product support: www.EZIscreen.com



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## **Develop your screen**

#### 4. Soak in water

Immediately after exposure, open the Exposure Frame and remove the transparency from the StencilPro film. Fill the Opaque Storage Container with water (25mm/ 1in.), place the film into the water and cover with lid. Soak exposed film for a minimum of 10 minutes, longer soaking times will not damage the film.

Set your EZIscreen timer for 10 minutes to remind you. Remember to cover water to stop exposure continuing. <u>10 minutes minimum</u> is required to set the emulsion and softens the design area.

#### 5. Rinse emulsion from film

After 10 minutes, brush the stencil in the water or wash out under a tap to remove the emulsion from the image area. Hold the film up to the light to check the entire image has washed off and the screen is exposed. Use the EZIscreen brush if necessary, rubbing gently to remove emulsion. Do not use high pressure, tap pressure is sufficient to remove the emulsion.

### 6. Final step - harden emulsion

After you have washed the emulsion out of the design area, dry the film using paper towel and re-expose to your light source to harden the film for 10 minutes. This step must be performed and ensures your screen is hardened and resilient to water/solvent cleaning.

Set your EZIscreen timer for 10 minutes to remind you.

## Using your screen

StencilPro<sup>™</sup> films can be used in a variety of ways - mounted to a frame for screen printing or used freehand for stenciling, brushing, spraying and many other applications.

Details on mounting film and other applications can be found online - www.EZIscreen.com/support

- Remove the tape from your frame and place on a flat surface with the tape facing upwards
- Place film, design facing down, onto the frame working from the middle outwards
- Attach the opposite side, working from the middle outwards to the edges
- Rotate frame and attach remaining two sides, working from the middle of the frame outwards
- Place Screen Masking Tape around the outside, covering both the edge of the mesh and overlapping onto the frame edge for extra adhesion.

If wrinkles are present simply lift the mesh off the frame and re-stretch, always starting from the middle and working outwards towards the edges.

Comprehensive instructions on screen printing can be found online - www.EZIscreen.com/support When screen printing remember to use a professional ink (not craft/hobby grade) and always use a Professional Long Life squeegee with a clean sharp edge on the blade.

## Caring for StencilPro<sup>™</sup>

You should never let ink or paint dry in your screen, as this is very hard to clean without damage. Avoid ink drying in the screen by either:

 Cleaning the screen (water or solvent cleaners depending on your ink type) when you pause printing Perform a clearing print (see website) to remove ink from design area between each print

If several StencilPro<sup>™</sup> films become stuck together do not pull them apart, soak in water for a few minutes until they come apart naturally.

Properly stored StencilPro<sup>™</sup> has a shelf life of at least 12 month. Always store undeveloped film in the black bag, in the dark and away from heat/fluroescent light/ direct sunlight.

We recommend storing undeveloped film inside the Opaque Storage Container for added protection against U.V.

Ideal storage/ usage temperature is between 5 to 25° Celsius. For hot/humid areas store inside Opaque Storage Container and place in refrigerator or cool room.

Store developed film flat, do not fold or bend.

Once developed the stencil is no longer sensitive to light and may be stored in clear plastic bags or any suitable storage container.

#### LIMITED PRODUCT WARRANTY

The manufacturer of StencilPro<sup>TM</sup>, Circuit Bridge LLC warrants to customers who purchase products, that they will be free from defects in workmanship and materials at the time of purchase

StencilProT<sup>M</sup> film is considered a consumable product and is warranted, at the time of sale, only against defects in workmanship or materials that prevent their use. Consumable products are goods reasonably expected to be used up or damaged during use. Due to the nature of StencilPro<sup>TM</sup>, no warranty implied or otherwise is given to its suitability for any particular purpose or application. This warranty only extends to the original customer and can not be transferred or assigned. The foregoing warranty is in lieu of and excludes all other warranties not expressly set forth herein, whether express or implied, by operation of law or otherwise, including but not limited to any implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.

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StencilPro warranty details www.EZIscreen.com/cbwarranty



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1548-073

Exposure times are suggested only, always test using sample, see StencilPro instructions for further information. Last Revised: 22nd July 2013



Cleaning

Storage

