

Fundraising using Screen Printing

The following is an example of how screen printing is used at an open event/ fete/ community craft fair, etc. - where your item must compete against other activities on the day.

You can also use this same process to create sales items [T-shirts, jumpers, bags, flags, tea towels] or required equipment purchases [Sports training jersey, art apron, library bag, club jumper, etc.] targeted at parents/friends/ associates of the school/ club members. To create these items you simply perform all the printing yourself based on artwork you choose or a logo, club/ school emblem, etc.

Equipment



The NEHOC Fundraising Package creates both A5 and A4 size screens and comes with the essential equipment to start screen printing.

For this example we added further equipment & materials: 4 - 6 x 1L fabric ink colours of choice, table, protective cover, aprons/work clothes, bucket of water plus chux cloths & a few empty ice cream buckets [always useful to have on hand] to wash screens or hands, masking tape and a pen to write name on the items, a length of rope to create your drying line and some pegs.

Plus your items to be printed - in this example t-shirts.

Choosing your designs

You can use anything for a design - lines, text, graphics and logos - as long as it is carbon based [a simple photocopy or laser print] the system will create a screen.

Designs to be printed can be chosen by an individual or incorporated into a separate art activity for an entire group/ class/ school/ organisation to be involved with.

Example: Hold a small art class where everyone submits a piece based on a common theme and then have the group judge the best 2 or 3 pieces. Designs can be A5, A4 or a combination - as the Fundraising package comes complete for both sizes.

Creating the screens



Create the screens in advance using the chemical free operation of the NEHOC system.

All systems come with a FREE Training CD that contains a simple to follow video demonstration, a colour Quick Use Operation Guide and Full Operation Manual.

The process is safe to use with children and ideal for incorporation into a class or group activity.



- ★ Prepare artwork [must be carbon based]
- ★ Cut the mesh to size of the frame to be used
- ★ Insert into the machine for imaging
- ★ Image the screen
- ★ Mount to a frame
- ✓ You are now ready for printing!



Never screen printed or have not printed in years?

It is generally easier for beginners, as our systems use only the latest professional equipment, making the technique used today much easier than old traditional silk screen printing methods.

Old equipment & techniques required very heavy pressure to receive a print - not any more - light pressure is used as the inks & squeegee are 'new generation' equipment:

- ★ Keep the angle of the squeegee upright at approx. 70 degrees
- ★ Do not use too much pressure - let the squeegee do the printing, not your wrist



We recommend you test print before the event so you can get a feel for how simple and fast the process is. Full printing instructions are included with every kit.

Preparation before the event is kept to a minimum as apart from the screens most other things are done on the day.

- ★ We recommend using bright colours, with 2 to 4 x 1 Litre, or 4 to 8 x 500ml, colours to choose from
- ★ Remember to target the sizes of your t-shirts to your audience - do not get large sizes for a young children's fete or junior footy team!
- ★ White or light coloured t-shirts are best to use, as they are cheaper, easier to print and colours show up best. Some dark colours may require you to use opaque fabrics inks for thick ink coverage.

On the day

- ★ You will need a protective cover on your table, newspaper may blow away so a cheap disposable plastic cover is best attached with tape or pegs.
 - Plastic is best as any spilt ink will not soak up and is easily collected and re-used.
- ★ Things can get hectic so lay your table out in a simple manner - remove all items you do not need and place them under the table or behind you.
 - Pictured right is a good layout with screens on the left, inks in front and t-shirts on the right.
 - Customers can then see the available colours right away and you won't spend all day moving the same items around to find space.
- ★ Use an umbrella where possible - try to stay out of the sun, remember the inks & screens will dry with exposure - and it makes for a long day.
- ★ Keep a small tub of water handy to clean squeegee's and screens as required.



Above: Caroline Munro at Artfest [a large bi-annual community & school art festival held on the Northern Beaches of Sydney.

Left: Hanging up prints attracts people and enables them to dry [approx. 5 minutes].

Below: Help is always welcome, an extra hand prepares the next t-shirt for printing as the queue builds.



Printing hints

- ★ Ensure you have a piece of tape with the customers name attached to the item before you print.
- ★ Select the design and colour/s then print - don't hesitate, get into it!
 - Hesitation often leads to second guessing your printing motion, which you will find is very simple [with few mistakes] if you just print!
 - If you feel unsure just perform a test print on some paper first.
- ★ Use a piece of rope to make a line to hang your printed items - this also attracts interest and helps people with colour choice.
- ★ Hang the item up on the line to dry for at least 5 minutes for the print to dry. It is also one less thing for the customer to carry around!

Cleaning up



All inks used are waterbased making clean up a fast & easy process - just wipe everything down and wash the screens under cold running water to clean them.
Full instructions for cleaning and storing screens are included with every system.