

Postcard Thermometer Transferring Instructions

Supplies Needed

- Sublimation ink transfer(s)
- Design template outlining the print area and temperature gauge. The design template is FREE when you purchase our thermometers. It is available in Photoshop and CorelDRAW. You should have received it by e-mail or on a CD, please call if you did not.
- Heat Resistant Felt Pad
- Clear silicone glue

Step 1: Adjust the Heat Press

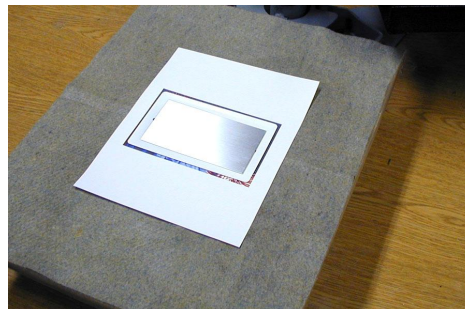
Postcard thermometers transfer best at a temperature *lower than* the 400° used for other substrates. Be sure to LOWER your heat press temperature before you begin transferring.

Heat Press Temperature: **390° F**
 Dwell Time: **90 Seconds**
 Pressure: **Firm**

Step 2: Design Your Transfer – For detailed instructions designing your transfer using the provided template, refer to the attached Appendix A.

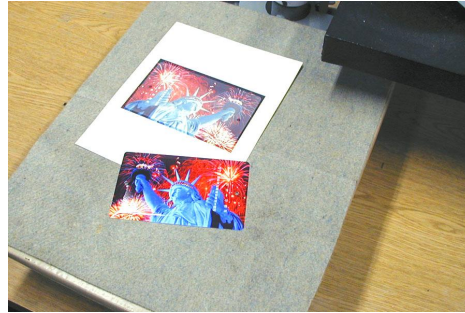
Step 3: Transfer the Image

- Place Heat Resistant Felt Pad in press
- Place transfer face up in press
- Place Postcard Thermometer face down.



- Close the heat press. Use **Firm** pressure, press at **390° F** for **90 seconds**.

- Open the press, turn over product. **CAREFUL** handling the thermometer, it will be very hot. We recommend using an oven mitt or heat resistant gloves.



Step 4: Apply the Glass Bulb

Note: If there is a bubble in the glass bulb, place it in a glass of very warm water for a few minutes. The red liquid will rise and the bubble will disappear. Remove the bulb from the water, let it dry, and proceed.

1. After the printed thermometer has cooled, place it on the table, face-up.
2. Draw a thin line of silicon or glue down the center of the temperature gauge.
3. Carefully position the glass bulb along the line of glue. The blue line on the bulb must be positioned at the **68° Fahrenheit mark (20° centigrade)**.
4. Press gently to secure.
5. Allow to dry.

APPENDIX A

For your convenience, a basic design template for Postcard Thermometers has been emailed with these instructions or is included on your support disk, in either Photoshop or CorelDRAW.

The design template includes the temperature gauge, a rectangle outline for registering your image, and a place for two screw holes – one at the top and bottom, or left and right sides, depending on whether you have the vertical or horizontal thermometer.

Using the Design Template in Photoshop

1. Begin with an image that has been color-corrected.
2. Download the Postcard Thermometer design template to your computer and open it in Photoshop.
3. Go to **Select, Load Selection**.
4. In the **Channel** selection bar, choose **Thermometer**. Click **OK**.
5. Open your image file in Photoshop.
6. Go to **Select All, Edit, Copy**.
7. Go back to the design template.

8. Select **Edit, Paste Into**.
9. You now have two layers:
 - **Layer 1** is your image
 - **Layer 2** is the Postcard Thermometer design template
10. **Important!** Go to **File, Save As**. Save this file under a new name so that you do not overwrite your Postcard Thermometer design template.
11. Now, using **Edit, Transform tool**, size your image to fit the Postcard Thermometer design template. For best results, **we recommend making the image slightly larger than the 4" x 6.5" thermometer**, to get a good bleed off all four sides.
12. Go to **Layer 2**, the Postcard Thermometer design template layer.
13. To change the color of the temperature gauge:
 - Go to **Select All**, press the **Delete** key. This changes the temperature gauge from black to white.
 - To change the gauge to *another* color, select the color you wish, and use the **Brush tool** to fill in the temperature gauge area.
14. You can move the temperature gauge anywhere on the image, as long as it is not too close to the top or the bottom of the thermometer.
15. You may also remove the dots that indicate where the screw holes are on the thermometer.
16. Print the transfer. The finished transfer should show your image and the temperature gauge.

Using the Design Template in CorelDraw

1. Begin with an image that has been color-corrected.
2. Download the postcard design template to your computer and open it in CorelDRAW.
3. Open your image file.
4. Import your image into the design template file.
5. Size and fit the image either horizontally or vertically, depending on the thermometer. For best results, **we recommend making the image slightly larger than the 4" x 6.5" thermometer**, to get a good bleed off all four sides.
6. Line up your image with the design template by centering them both on the page.
7. You can move the temperature gauge anywhere on the image, as long as it is not too close to the top or the bottom of the thermometer. You can also change the color of the gauge.
8. Send your image "to the back."
9. Delete the words that appear on the template. Also delete the lined rectangle and the screw holes at the top/bottom or sides.
10. **Important!** Go to **File, Save As**. Save this file under a new name so that you do not overwrite your postcard design template.
11. Print the transfer. The finished transfer should show your image and the temperature gauge.

APPENDIX B

Tips & Troubleshooting

1. There is a bubble in the glass bulb: Place it in a glass of very warm water for a few minutes. The red liquid will rise and the bubble will disappear. Remove the bulb from the water, let it dry, and proceed to Step #4: Apply the Glass Bulb.
2. Prints light in places:
 - a. Check your time and temperature. You should be pressing at **390° F** for **1.5 minutes**, but presses can vary. Lightness can be caused by *too much* time or heat (burnout) as well as *too little* time or heat. Try increasing or lowering the heat. You might also try increasing or lowering the pressing time.
 - b. You may not be using enough pressure.
 - c. Make sure your felt pad is not worn in spots from previous pressings.
3. Dulling (loss of gloss) of the coating after the transfer process may be an indication that your heat temperature is too high, or that you have pressed for too long. Check the temperature and make sure it is set to **390° F**. Make sure you only press for **1.5 minutes**.

Customer Support

For support on these or any of our products, please call our toll-free number for assistance: **877.795.1500**. You may also write to us at support@laserreproductions.com.