Accessories
for pad printing

Viscospatula

to adjust the viscosity of the printing ink

Teca-Print

Pad Printing Equipment & Supplies ✚ swiss made

The Viscospatula is a simple, yet practical tool to adjust the viscosity (viscousness or flowability) of pad printing ink.
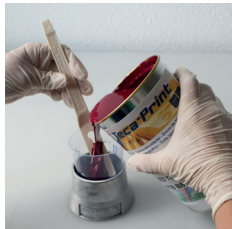
How to use the Viscospatula:

1.
Open the ink can with the bevelled end of the Viscospatula.

2.
Stir the ink with the Viscospatula until it is mixed thoroughly.

3.
Pour the necessary quantity of ink into the Teca-Print mixing cup.

4.
Add the thinner drop-by-drop while continuously stirring with the Viscospatula.

5.
Hold the cup so that the large round opening of the Viscospatula is halfway submerged in ink.

6.
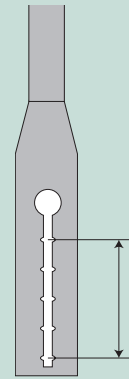Pull the Viscospatula out of the cup and hold it vertically.

7.
The ink flows down the spatula.

To adjust the viscosity of the ink for pad printing the time the ink needs to flow down the Viscospatula is measured.

The Viscospatula is immersed into the ink until it reaches the large hole at the top of the slot. Then it is held vertically so that the ink can flow down it. The measuring distance starts with the first and ends with the last (fifth) small opening.

With a watch or while counting the seconds (3-4-5…) the time the ink needs to flow off the measuring distance can be determined.

In general an ink viscosity of 6 to 10 seconds is ideal for pad printing. Depending on the ink type and colour the time can vary.

In this context:

Shorter flow time:
The ink is too thin and must be mixed again.

Longer flow time:
The ink is too thick. Add more thinner drop-by-drop while continuously stirring.

Practical tip:
If the handling properties are particularly good, write down the flow time. Then the next time you work with the same ink you can repeat the adjustments to get the ideal value.

Package with 10 Viscospatulas
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