

ZEBRA KALLITYPE PRINT KIT -USER MANUAL

1. Introduction

Thank you for purchasing this Kallitype Kit by Zebra Dry Plates. This kit will make approximately fifty 8"x10" prints, producing a unique eggplant-colored image. For added archival quality, the image can be toned in platinum, palladium, or gold. Please read and understand these instructions completely before beginning and observe standard laboratory safety precautions when handling chemicals.

2. Kit Contents

- 50 ml Kallitype Sensitiser A (Silver Nitrate 10% Solution)
- 50 ml Kallitype Sensitiser B (Ferric Oxalate 20% Solution)
- 50 g EDTA Clearing Agent
- 250 g Sodium Thiosulfate Fixer
- 500ml Black Tone Developer
- 2x 3ml pipette

3. Safety and Handling Information

- Silver nitrate in your kit is not light-sensitive as long as it is kept separate. It can be handled under most room lighting conditions.
- Always wear plastic or latex gloves and use protective eyewear when handling Salted Paper and Silver Nitrate solutions.

- All photo solutions should be considered poisonous. Do not store them in a refrigerator used for food or drinks.
- Solutions are stable at room temperature with a shelf life of at least 2 years.

4. Sensitiser preparation

Mix equal parts of:

- Kallitype Sensitiser A (Silver Nitrate 10% Solution)
- Kallitype Sensitiser B (Ferric Oxalate 20% Solution)

A good starting point is about 20 drops each of the 10% Silver Nitrate and 20% Ferric Oxalate per 8x10, or 12 drops each per 5x7. The amount may vary according to the paper used.

***Contrast:** Adjust contrast with small additions of 5% Ammonium Dichromate. If one drop is too strong, dilute the solution.

5. Coating

Using a Brush

- Wet the brush with distilled water and blot it on a paper towel to remove excess water.
- Pour the measured Kallitype solution onto the center of the image area. Using light pressure, spread the solution horizontally, then vertically, until fully absorbed. If spreading takes longer than 30 seconds, reduce the amount of solution by 1/4.
- Avoid over-brushing to prevent paper surface abrasions.
- After coating, place the paper in a dark spot to dry for about 1 hour. Do not use a hair dryer.

Using a Coating Rod

- Pour the Kallitype solution along one edge of the image area. Place the coating rod in the solution and wiggle it slightly to distribute the solution evenly.
- Apply light pressure and pull the rod across the image area. Lift the rod at the edge, skip over the bead of solution, and drag it back in the opposite direction. If more than 6 passes are needed, reduce the solution amount by 1/4.
- Blot any excess solution with a paper towel corner. Dry the coated paper in a dark spot for about 1 hour.

6. Resting

After coating, allow the paper to sit for about 1-2 minutes. Tween 20 helps even out the coating and pull it into the paper.

7. Drying

Dry under gentle heat. A hairdryer works fine, or let it air dry naturally if you are not in a very humid climate.

8. Exposure

Contact print under sunlight or a UV light source. Print times are about 1-2 stops faster than traditional palladium. Since there will be little print-out image, timing will have to be determined by trial and error or test strip. Kallitype prints will bleach in the fix, so either tone before fixing or overprint by a stop or two to counteract bleaching.

9. Developing

Place the print in the developer for at least 5 minutes. Standard development times range from 8-10 minutes. The image will appear immediately, so work quickly to avoid watermarks. Different developers will change the color tone of the print.

10. Clearing (Optional)

Depending on the developer used, some may clear instantly in the developing tray. The Black Kallitype developer included in the kit requires clearing. Clear for 3-5 minutes in a bath of 2 tablespoons of EDTA Tetrasodium per liter of water. The EDTA solution can be reused until approximately 20 8x10 prints have been cleared.

11. Fixing

Fix in a 5% solution of Sodium Thiosulfate (50 grams per liter of water) at around 68°F to prevent accelerated bleaching. Fix for about 2 minutes, then quickly transfer to a tray of fresh water. This fix solution will be sufficient for fixing 10 8x10 prints and should be discarded after each session.

12. Final Washing

Wash the prints for 15-20 minutes and dry on archival blotters or screens.

13. Toning

Kallitype prints can be toned with noble metals to prevent bleaching during fixing and increase permanence. Toning will result in color shifts and a loss of the original print color. If toning, do so between the clearing bath and the fixing bath.

Toning Formulas

To 1 liter of water, add 5 grams of citric acid, and then add one of the following:

- 5 ml Gold Chloride 5%
- 5 ml Standard Palladium Solution No. 3
- 5 ml Standard Platinum Solution No. 3

After developing and thoroughly washing, place the print in the toning bath until the desired color is reached. The noble metal salt in the bath will deplete over time, indicated by a black deposit in the tray (silver replaced by the noble metal). After toning, fix and do the final wash. If sufficiently toned, the print will not bleach back.

14. Contact Us

For assistance or to share feedback, please contact us on: zebradryplates@gmail.com

Unlock the creative potential of Salt Printing with the Zebra Salt Printing Kit, and let your artistic vision come to life!