

## Hotfoilstamping:

Tools, mostly made from magnesium, sometimes from brass or copper, that are raised and set up reverse from the original image, are heated to temperatures ranging from 120° to sometimes 200°C.

The preselected and prefabricated track of stamping foil is set between the stock and the tool is being pressed under force onto the stock, resulting in a highly pigmented but initially flat image on the paper.

The foil, consisting of separation-, pigmentation- and adhesive heat-activated layers, is transferred to the stock where the raised and heated tool touches the foil and stock.

The carrier foil, now only containing little of the original pigment is recovered for later recycling.

No curing time is necessary and sheets can immediately be processed in other printing methods.

Note, that litho-similar resolution values will not be met. However, screening in this process can bring some very interesting effects as will the structuring of the tools surfaces before the process for brushed, dotted, lined and other effects.

Also note, that depending on the stock, there might be a light visible impression on the backside of the process, although we are determined to always minimize this side-effect.

Also very common is the use of so called "diffraction foils", that bring special reflective effects for the security industry in printing, being very hard to be reproduced on digital systems such as color copiers and others. Specially registered diffraction or holographic foils (for a 3-dimensional look) can be used to further enhance protection.



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