

## How to Select Pad-Print and Screen-Print

Printing Method Selection - Choosing Pad Printing or Screen Printing?

When selecting a printing process, pad printing and screen printing are two common techniques, each with its unique advantages suitable for different printing needs. The choice of method primarily depends on the following factors: the material of the object being printed, its shape, the size and thickness of the printed graphics, and other specific requirements.

### ■ Material of the Object Being Printed

Both pad printing and screen printing can be applied to a wide range of materials, including plastic, metal, ceramic, glass, rubber, paper, and fabric. This means that when choosing a process, material is generally not a limiting factor.

### ■ Shape of the Object Being Printed

Pad printing, with its flexible silicone pad, can print on objects of various shapes, including flat, concave, convex, curved, and irregular surfaces. Therefore, pad printing is especially suitable for objects with complex shapes or irregular surface textures. In contrast, screen printing is more suitable for flat and simple curved surfaces, such as cylindrical or conical shapes.

### ■ Size of the Printed Graphics

In general, pad printing is better suited for fine, small graphic printing because it can accurately reproduce details. On the other hand, screen printing excels in larger graphic printing and can even handle graphic content up to 100 to 200 cm, making it a better choice for large-area printing.

### ■ Thickness of the Printed Graphics

In terms of printing thickness, pad printing is usually thinner, with the thickness after printing typically below 0.01 mm. Conversely, screen printing offers greater control over thickness, allowing adjustments through the thickness of the screen mesh and the hardness of the squeegee. Therefore, if there are specific requirements for the thickness of the printed layer, screen printing might be more suitable.

### ■ Other Characteristics

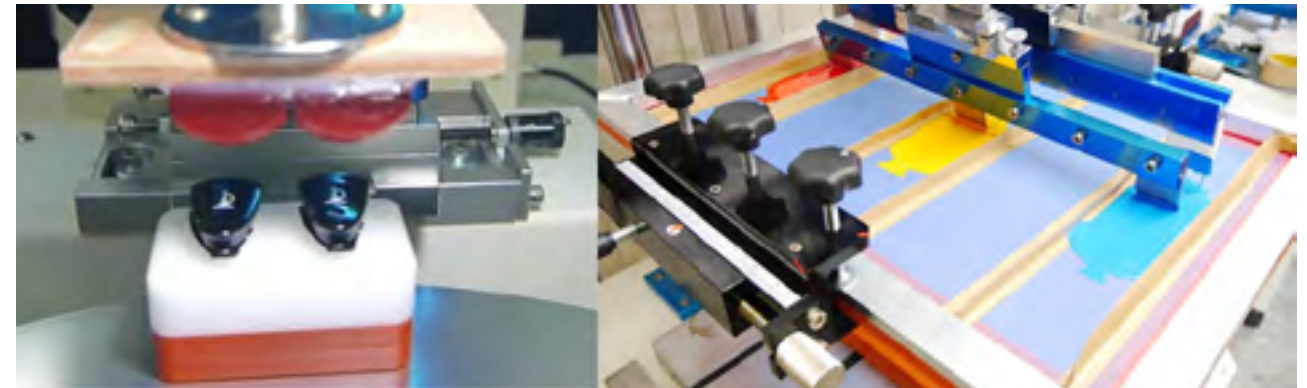
Pad printing uses fast-drying inks, making it especially suitable for multi-color printing. Screen printing offers more variety in ink selection, including not only volatile inks but also UV inks, strong adhesives, chemicals, and even thermal paste. Additionally, screen printing plates are more economical to produce compared to pad printing plates.

[\[Click here for recommended pad printing inks\]](#)

[\[Click here for recommended screen printing inks\]](#)

### ■ Summary

When choosing between pad printing and screen printing, it's essential to evaluate based on the material, shape, size, and thickness of the printed graphics, as well as specific printing needs. If you need to print on irregular surfaces or require fine graphic printing, pad printing is the ideal choice; for large-area printing or tasks requiring thickness control, screen printing has a distinct advantage.

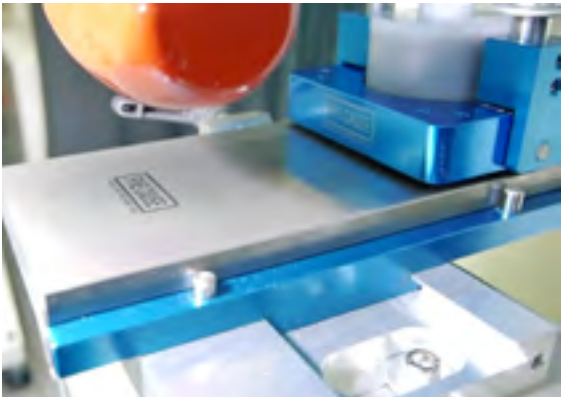


■ [For beginners or low-volume printing, pad printing outsourcing is recommended.]

■ [For standard mass production, the ANC series of pad printing machines is recommended.]

■ [For standard mass production, the TSN series of screen printing machines is recommended.]

■ [For beginners or low-volume printing, screen printing outsourcing is recommended.]



Project	Pad Printing-Characteristics	Pscreen Printing-Characteristics
Material of Printed Object	Plastic, Metal, Ceramic, Glass, Rubber, Paper, Cloth and etc.	Plastic, Metal, Ceramic, Glass, Rubber, Paper, Cloth and etc.
Shape of Printed Object	Plane, Concave, Convex, Curved, Irregular Surface,Texture Surface	Plane, Curved Shape (Cylinder, Cone)
Printed Pattern	Normally, the printed pattern for pad-print is not big.( Within 80mm D.) Bigger pattern is printable. But the cost is higher. For small/thin pattern, pad-print is more suitable than screen-print.	It has relatively less restriction for screen-print. 100-200 cm pattern is printable. Screen print is suitable for bigger printed pattern.
Pattern Thickness	Thinner. The thickness of the printed pattern is less than 0.01mm	Thicker. The thickness can be controlled by screen' s thickness and hardness of the squeegee.
Other Characteristics	The ink used for pad-print dries faster and is specially suitable for multicolor printing. Ink-cup print is applicable which seals the ink to keep it clean. It is stable and environmental friendly.	It has relatively less restriction for the ink used on screen-print. BesidesSolvent-Evaporation ink, the liquid materialsuch as UV ink, superglue are all applicable. The cost of making the screen plate is cheaper than making the steel plate if theprinted pattern is the same.

Fine Cause manufactures pad printer and screen printer including standard types and customization. We manufacture a variety of ink cup pad printer, open-tray pad printer, servo motor screen printer, pneumatic cylinder screen printer and customized screen printer.

In the past decade, we have taken part in an extent of customized and precise machinery projects on both pad printing and screen printing including a variety of application fields: printer for plastics, printer for metals, printer for glass, plastic surface printer, metal surface printer, glass surface printer, coin printer, auto-cylindrical bottle printer, SD card printer, MICRO SD card printer, contact lens printer, syringe printer, test tube printer, solder paste printer and touch glass printer, etc.

## Our service

- ▶ Pad Printer
- ▶ Screen Printer
- ▶ Hot Stamping Machine
- ▶ Other Equipments
- ▶ Printing Supplies
- ▶ Inks/Solvents/Additives
- ▶ Printing Pad Catalog
- ▶ OEM Service Related

## Fine Cause's trusty dealer in Worldwide Area

- Malaysia- KHAI LIEN SUPPLIERS(M) SDN. BHD.
- Cosota Vietnam Company Limited
- Indonesia Jakarta- INDONESIA CO.,LTD.
- Thailand Bangkok- SCREEN & PAD PRINTER CO.,LTD.
- Taiwan- UNIQUE PRINTING SUPPLY, INC
- Taiwan- MINGYAO INC.
- Taiwan- Tsai Kuang
- Taiwan- Head Quarter -FINE CAUSE ENTERPRISE

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