

## Screen Printing Knowledge-Part-1 Screen Stencil



- First of all, we'd like to introduce the dos and don'ts for cleaning a screen stencil.
- Before cleaning the screen stencil, the ink on the screen must be scraped off.



- Press the button on the screen printer to let the squeegee move left to scrape off the ink on the graphics.

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- If the squeegee is soft and there is still residual ink after scraping, a harder squeegee can be used to scrape off the ink manually.
- Do we only have to wipe the bottom of screen with a cloth? Does the top need to be wiped?
  - Of course, wiping both top and bottom sides of the screen is the best and cleanest way to clean.

**Notice:**

- Be careful when cleaning the screen stencil!(If we need to clean the screen stencil during printing).
  - Be gentle while cleaning the screen stencil.
  - Wet the cloth to the point where the solvent can be wrung out easily.

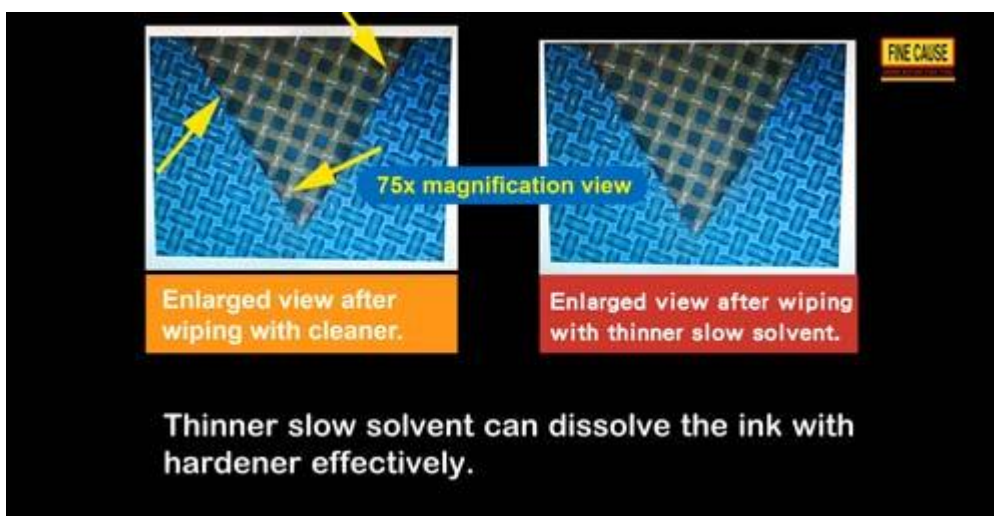
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- Do not use a cloth that is not wet enough to wipe the screen back and forth quickly.
- Then wipe gently to prevent the thickness of graphics emulsion from thinning due to rubbing.
- How do we confirm that the screen stencil is clean?
  - Use a magnifying glass to check if there is ink residue.
- What if the graphics are too large to be checked one by one?
  - First, we need to use a clean cloth with cleaner or thinner slow.
  - The ink will block the screen mesh if it is not cleaned completely.
  - If the cloth becomes dirty, replace it with a new one.
- Repeated wiping. Until the cloth is not stained with ink.
- Do we have to use the Detergent to clean the screen stencil?
  - The cleaner has a very high volatility, which is convenient for rapid volatilization after cleaning.
  - If hardener is added in the ink, a thinner slow should be used to clean and remove the ink effectively.

- After wiping, dry the thinner slow completely with a hair dryer under the screen stencil.
- Use a hair dryer to dry. Then thinner slow solvent does not remain.  
Residual solvent will make printing 【blurred】 .

**Notice:**

- The residual ink is invisible to the naked eye. Use 2.5D vision measuring machine to see
  - Use 2.5D vision measuring machine to see the difference after cleaning.
  - Use 2.5 disambiguation vision measuring machine to see the difference after cleaning.
- 75x magnification view



- Enlarged view after wiping with cleaner.
- Enlarged view after wiping with thinner slow solvent.
- Thinner slow solvent can dissolve the ink with hardener effectively.
  - Especially if the 【ink is added with hardener】 , we should check the screen stencil carefully if the screen has been cleaned completely.
  - Otherwise, the ink will 【block the mesh】 .
  - After the hardener 【reaction time is reached, the screen stencil will not be cleaned completely】 !
  - For fine graphic lines, a thoroughly cleaned screen is crucial.

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