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SUBSTRATES & MATERIALS

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Substrates & Materials

Image Graphics & Signs works with state-of-the-art materials and equipment. We aim to guarantee the best final product, with quality, and durability. In this brochure, you'll learn about different applications and types of substrates. They are the base to modern, beautiful and versatile signs and graphics.

Acrylic

Also known as PlexiGlass, Acrylic comes in both sheet form and in roll stock. Due to the high thermal expansion and contraction rate of acrylic, it is best mounted using an extruded aluminum frame (usually custom-made to size).

Popular thicknesses in sheet stock range from 1/16" to 1/4". There is a wide range of colours available in sheet sizes of 49" x 97", 61" x 96" and 75" x 100". Roll stock is 3/16" thick in either white or clear. Heights of acrylic roll stock are 30", 39", 51", 63", and 75".

Use it for: Backlit Ground Signs | Backlit Fascia Signs | Pylon Signs | Menu Boxes Brochure Holders | Retail Signage | Dimensional Letters | Writing Boards

Aluminum

Aluminum is extremely durable even in outdoor conditions. Aluminum signs can be made with or without rounded corners or holes, and are available in different thicknesses from 18 ga. (.040" th.) to 12 ga. (.080" th.). With this substrate, we primarily use premium vinyl or UV printing for text and graphics. Aluminum can also be screen-printed for volume quantities.

Aluminum Composite

Alumilite, Econolite, and Alupanel are available in large sizes. A thin aluminum surface pad is backed up onto a plastic rigid core. Hence has an excellent outdoor durability as it is fully weather resistant. Available in one and two sides, from 3mm to 5 mm thick. Sheet sizes available in 4'x8' and 5'x0'. Ask us for different colours.

Use it for: Regulation Signs | Parking Signs | Street Signs | Outdoor Signs | Directional Signs | Site Signs Construction Signs | Traffic and Regulatory Signage | Developers Signage | Dimensional Letters Home Builders | Recognition Boards | Certificates

Banners

Custom-cut with hems, grommets and/or ropes, banners are versatile and economic materials that work both indoors and outdoors. Vinyls banners come in 13, 15 or 20 oz. vinyl-coated (all vinyl types can be applied to the banners) banner with polyester weave for strength. Banners can also be screen-printed and most of the times due to our full colour capabilities, they are directly digitally printed, up to 10' seamless or ANY size with seams.

We also carry Mesh Banners for *see thru* and *wind thru* applications. These include usages as window treatments, on construction fence lines, and sponsors in arenas, stadiums and fields.

Use it for: Tradeshow Displays | Temporary Outdoor Signs | Street Banners | Grand Openings, Store Specials, Sales & Promotions | Arenas and Events | Window treatments | Construction fence advertising | Hoarding boards

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Coroplast

Corrugated plastic material, similar in appearance to corrugated cardboard. This is the most low-cost substrate material and is ideal for indoor and temporary outdoor signs. This material can be screen-printed for volume or direct printed. Due to its light weight, it is ideal for hanging from the ceiling or in a window with suction cups.

Available in three different thicknesses: 3/16", 1/4 and 3/8", has a wide range of colours, especially for the 3/16" thickness. Sheet sizes range from 4' x 8' to 5' x 10' (depending on thickness and colour).

Use it for: Real Estate Signs | Election Signs | Tradeshow Displays | A-Frame Inserts | Promotional signage

Crezon

Multi-laminated marine plywood designed for outdoor applications. It may be painted with enamel paint, and may have edged trim around the perimeter for additional weather protection. Available both in one and two sides, has thicknesses of 1/2" and 3/4". Sheet sizes are 4' x 8' and 4' x 10'.

Use it for: Larger Real Estate Signs | Site Signs | Company Identification Signs

Magnetic

Ultra Magnetic material is a thin film of vinyl on top of a magnetic sheet for mounting to metal surfaces. Ultra magnetic material can be directly printed, it may also be screen-printed, vinyl lettered, or coated with a digitally printed vinyl. This material comes on rolls 24" wide in thicknesses of .030".

Use it for: Fridge Magnets | Vehicle Signs | Information and Communication Boards | Thinner gauges available for Calendars and Business card printing

Polycarbonate

Typically known by trade name of Lexan, polycarbonate is an extremely strong, shatter-resistant material. It is usually used where the opportunity of breakage is possible. Premium vinyl may be applied (including translucent vinyl for backlit signs).

Polycarbonate comes in white or clear. Thicknesses range from 1/8" to 1/4" or thicker. It comes in sheet form in sizes 49" x 97", 61" x 97" and 75" x 100". Polycarbonate also comes in roll stock form in sizes 38", 52", 64", 72" and 100" high. Thinner gauges can be used for Trade Show displays panels and headers for durability.

Use it for: Backlit Ground Signs | Backlit Fascia Signs | Pylon Signs

PVC

PVC is a smooth, hard plastic material. Thicknesses range from .040" to 1". It is available in various standard colours such as red, blue, yellow, green, white, and black but not in all thicknesses. The most popular thickness is 1/8" (3 mm). Sheet sizes are 4' x 8', 4' x 10' and 5' x 10'. Best yields with direct printing, but can be screen-printed, and vinyl can also be applied.

Use it for: POP Signage | Trade Show Displays | Light Duty Industrial Signs

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Styrene

Styrene or HIPS (High Impact Styrene) is smooth, white, lightweight plastic material. It is available in .012", .020", .030", .040", 1/16", .080 and 1/8" t hicknesses. Sheet sizes are 40" x 72" and 48" x 96".

Use it for: Tradeshow Displays | Bus Sign Ads (Internal/External)

*** PS. Clear version (PET G) available for backlit applications and for graphical light covers.**

Vinyls

Vinyl material comes in 2 different types. Cast vinyl and Calendered vinyl. The terms cast & calendered refer to the way the two types of vinyl are manufactured.

Cast vinyl (Premium or 9-years)

Higher quality vinyl, due to the method of manufacturing. The manufacturer guarantees cast vinyl against fading, shrinking, cracking and peeling for up to nine years. These vinyl are used where outdoor durability is important. There is also a cast translucent vinyl, used on signs that are backlit by fluorescent or LED lights. In this case, colours remain vibrant at night.

Calendered vinyl (3-5 years)

This type of vinyl is guaranteed by the manufacture for three to five years in outdoor applications. They may be used outdoors where long-term vinyl graphics are not required. Also, the durability is unaffected indoors. For price comparison, cast vinyl's are approximately three times the price per square foot higher than calendered vinyl.

Large Format Full Colour Digital Printing

There is a wide range of vinyl that is used to print full colour graphics which are specially manufactured to be used with UV, solvent and eco-solvent based printers. While the vinyl offers excellent bold, color reproduction and quality, the solvent ink formulation resists sunlight fading.

Ultra-violet lamination is also available for added durability and maintaining colour fastness. This vinyl is great for indoor and medium-term outdoor durable applications (three to five years). Typically, graphics are printed onto the vinyl then applied to any of the materials described in the "Sign Substrates" section below. They can also be printed onto something as simple as photographic grade poster paper.

We can also print "direct" to most substrates with our UV Flat bed printing process. (Up to 63"w, 1.75" thickness)

Available for digitally printing and typical usages are in:

- ▶ **Vehicle Wraps: to be able to conform with the body lines and can stretch,**
- ▶ **Floor Graphics: to create a slip resistant and safe environment**
- ▶ **Wall Graphics: to create custom murals and visual therapies**
- ▶ **Window Graphics: different opacities available including a 2 way film and different types of perforated and clear films.**

IMAGE[®]

GRAPHICS & SIGNS

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