

Graining Process



Wet Stone - warm water is preferable



Brush off excess water with hands.



Sprinkle 100 grit on the wet stone.



Grain using levigator 3x with 100 grit or until the 'ghost image' is gone.



Or, grain using a flat stone, then grain 3x with 150 grit and 2x with 220 grit.



When grit becomes sticky and hard to move, wash off with water and start again with fresh grit.

Graining & Checking Stone for Level



After graining off old image, rinse off grit and squeegee off excess water.



Blot stone dry with clean newsprint.



Fan stone completely dry.



Place the straight edge with an even amount hanging over the edges of the stone.



Place a piece of telephone book page under the straight edge, if it pulls out freely,



you have a low spot and should mark it with a pencil so you know where to grain next.

First Etch



Rosin and Talc drawn stone, (with a plate, Talc only).



Mix etches - (gum arabic and nitric acid). For plates, work with the premixed etch.



Avoid burning image by pouring gum on the stone surface and spread it with a sponge.



Then pour etch on the non image area.



Work etch into the image area with a sponge
Use a different sponge for each spot etch.



After 5 minutes buff all etches in tight with cheesecloth. Be careful to protect delicate areas by weakening strong etch (with gum).

Second Etch



Refresh stone chemistry by applying and buffing in new gum coat.



Remove drawing material with varsol, (only use lacquer thinner if necessary).



Pour a quarter size drop of asphaltum on stone.



Buff in asphaltum with paper towel or rag.



Remove asphaltum with damp paper towel then sponge to create even water film.



Roll ink on image and sponging in between. When image full, repeat 1st etch.

Printing



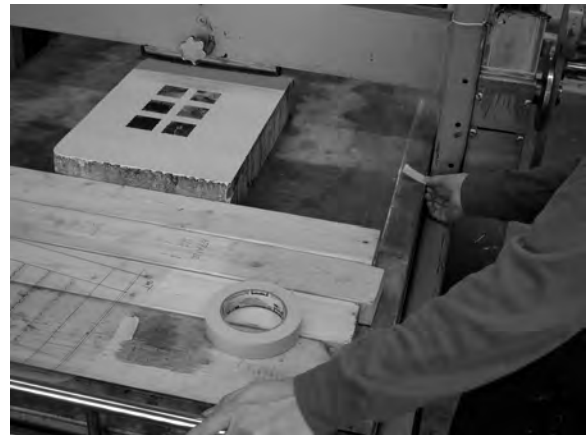
Draw a "T" mark on the centre of the leading edge and a bar on the trailing edge.



Mark the type of paper and number it. Then organize paper for printing.



Set kiss pressure by imitating the printing process tighten the scraper bar onto the tympan and mark with tape.



Set press travel to ensure you begin and end at the right spot.

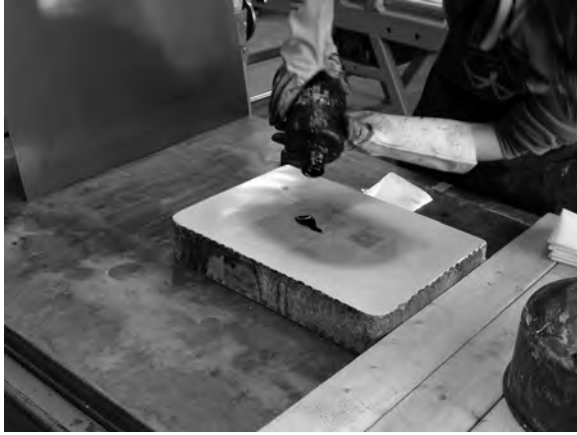


Using the sheet of mylar you created for registration, scratch in your "T" and Bar mark (which corresponds with your paper).



After buffing in a new gum coat, remove old ink with varsol.

Printing Continued



Pour asphaltum on stone and buff in with a clean rag.



Remove asphaltum with damp paper towel then sponge on an even water film.



Charge roller on ink slab (6 passes). Put a bead of fresh ink down every few prints.



Roll ink over image (this is called a pass). Counting your passes helps you edition.



Do 3 proofs on newsprint, then put down editing paper (covered by newsprint).



Place tympan carefully on stone to avoid paper shift, then apply grease to the tympan.

Printing Concluded



Printing pressure varies from press to press. Start with 1/4 turn clockwise from kiss



pressure for newsprint and a 1/2 t for rag paper. Pull down pressure bar at tape mark.



Crank press nice and steady.



Lift pressure bar.



Lift tympan- (to reduce static you can run a damp sponge over the tympan surface).



When printing, remove newsprint first, then edition paper. Beware of grease on fingers.