Overview

You can print on a wide variety of printing materials, all of which are referred to in this guide as substrates.

Substrate tips

Choosing the correct substrate for your needs is an essential step in ensuring good print quality.

Here are some tips about substrate usage.

- To print on textile substrates, in most cases you should use the ink collector and loading accessory. See Ink collector on page 58.

- Using the take-up reel with some substrates, such as textiles, may give the printer better control of the substrate and is likely to improve print quality. See Take-up reel on page 72.

- Allow all substrates to adapt to room conditions, out of the packaging, for 24 hours before using them for printing.

- Handle film and photo substrates by the edges, or wear cotton gloves. Skin oils can be transferred to the substrate, leaving fingerprint marks.

- Keep the substrate tightly wound on the roll throughout the loading and unloading procedures. To make sure that the roll stays tightly wound, consider using tape to stick the leading edge of the roll to the core just before removing the roll from the printer. You can keep the roll taped during storage. If the roll starts to unwind, it can become difficult to handle.

  NOTE: The use of tape to stick the leading edge of the roll to the core is especially important for heavy substrates, because the inherent stiffness of the substrate can cause it to loosen and unwind from the core.

- Print quality could be impaired if you use a substrate that is unsuitable for your image.

- Make sure that the appropriate print-quality setting is selected in the RIP.

- Whenever you load a roll, the front panel prompts you to specify the substrate type that you are loading. For good print quality, it is essential to specify this correctly. Check that the substrate name is the same in the front panel and in the RIP.
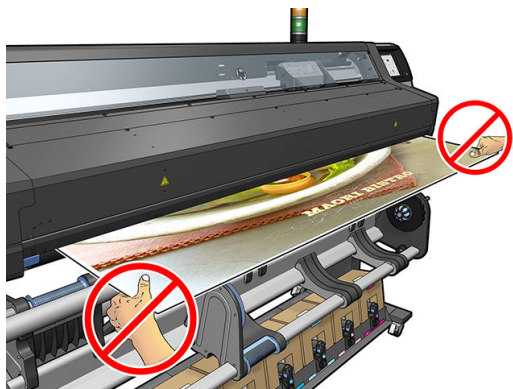
  If the names are not the same, press on the front panel, then **Substrate library** > **Change loaded substrate**; or change the substrate in the RIP.

- Do not pull the printed substrate while the printer is printing: this can cause severe print-quality defects.

- When printing a series of jobs, do not let the printed substrate obstruct the output path: this can cause severe print-quality defects.

- For more substrate tips, see and .

⚠ CAUTION: Removing the substrate from the printer manually without using the front panel could damage the printer. Do this only when necessary to clear a substrate jam.

Supported substrate categories

Substrate category	Substrate types	Generic substrate names
Self-Adhesive Vinyl	Cast self-adhesive vinyl	Generic Self-Adhesive Vinyl
	Calendered self-adhesive vinyl	Generic Self-Adhesive Vinyl Vivid
	Perforated self-adhesive vinyl	
	Transparent self-adhesive vinyl	
	Reflective self-adhesive vinyl	
Textile	Polyester textile and fabric	Generic Textile
	Textile banner	Generic Canvas & Coated Textiles
	Backdrops	
	Textile mesh with liner	
	Frontlit textile, with liner if porous	
	Backlit textile, with liner if porous	
	Canvas	
	Flag and voile with liner	
	Cotton textile	
	Self-adhesive textile	

Substrate category	Substrate types	Generic substrate names
PVC Banner	Frontlit banner	Generic PVC Banner
	Backlit banner	Generic Backlit PVC Banner
	Scrim banner	
	Scrimless banner	
	Mesh banner with liner	
	Blockout banner	
	Truck curtain banner or tarpaulin	
PP and PE Film and Banner	Polypropylene (PP) film	Generic PP & PE Synthetics
	Synthetic paper (such as Yupo)	
	Tyvek	
	Coated PE/HDPE (polyethylene) banner	
PET Film	Polyester (PET) backlit film	Generic Polyester Film
	Polyester (PET) frontlit film	Generic Backlit Polyester Film
	Polyester (PET) grey-back film	
Paper	Coated paper	Generic Paper
	Uncoated paper	Generic Coated Paper
	Photo paper	Generic Backlit Paper
	Photorealistic paper	
	Blue-back paper	
	Self-adhesive paper	