

# Image Transfer via Decal

Notes

[www.PaulRoark.com](http://www.PaulRoark.com)

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## A. LazerTran

### Supplier Information<sup>1</sup>

The process will work with matte inks. The inkjet surface is like Gesso.

[http://www.lazertran.com/products/lazertran\\_products\\_inkjet.htm](http://www.lazertran.com/products/lazertran_products_inkjet.htm)

“Our new Lazertran Inkjet paper is completely revolutionary. It **does not need to be sprayed** with a cover coat like other inkjet waterslide decals but magically the inks become waterproof after 30 minutes allowing the decal to be put in water without the colours washing away. It is an egg shell white decal that can be made clear by the application of any oil based varnish. We find oil based polyurethane works well.”

### Dawn Beckert<sup>2</sup> process for Lazertran:

<http://www.art-e-zine.co.uk/imagelazertran.html>

### MATERIALS:

- 1.. Lazertran transfer paper for Inkjet printers.  
(available online at [www.lazertran.com](http://www.lazertran.com) )
- 2.. Bottocino marble tiles - or other porous tiles (available at Home Depot and Lowes)
- 3.. Golden Regular Matte Gel Medium (if necessary)
- 4.. Polycrylic Varnish (Baer)
- 5.. Krylon Matte finish spray sealant
6. Original art collage, or your own image, scanned and then printed onto lazertran.

### STEPS:

- 1.. (appropriate **image**)
- 2.. ... reduce to fit in a 4x4 square tile.

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<sup>1</sup> E-mail from Mick Kelly [mick@lazertran.com](mailto:mick@lazertran.com)

<sup>2</sup> Dawn Beckert web page: [www.divasdeste.com](http://www.divasdeste.com)

3.. ... **print** the image onto the smooth creamy side of the Lazertran transfer paper for Inkjet printers. (Do not reverse the images and do not use too much ink as doing so may cause the image to bleed onto the transfer paper).

Note: For Epson printers the manufacturer suggests using the "plain paper" setting, then custom , then advanced and set the dpi to 1440. Also, click off "High Speed". For HP printers, the manufacturer suggests setting to "Draft".

4.. Allow the transfer paper to **dry** for at least 30 minutes so that the ink will set into the paper. (Tip: It is also possible to speed this process by waving a heat gun, at least 6" away from the transfer paper, over the paper until dry).

5.. **Cut** closely around the collaged square, however do not worry if some white appears, any area that is currently white will dry clear.

6.. **Soak** the cut out collage image into slightly warm water for approximately 15 seconds or until the paper begins to uncurl. (Do not be alarmed if the collage begins to roll up in the water, this is supposed to happen).

7.. Completely **saturate the tile with alcohol** or turpentine (NOTE: **turpentine** works better than alcohol but should be used in a **well ventilated area** and should be disposed of properly, per the manufacturer's instructions) and carefully **slide the backing sheet off** of the transferred image **and apply the image to the face of the marble tile.**

Note: It is **best to use marble or some other porous surface** as the image will not become enmeshed in the tile if you use ceramic, for instance. Tip: Should the edges of the image not soak into the tile, I suggest using Golden Gel Medium as a glue. It will be easiest to use your finger to apply it only where necessary. (with **turpentine**, this should never be an issue as the **image will imbed itself** into the tile easily).

8. If the image has a lot of hills and valleys, remove the transfer paper image quickly and re-apply before the turpentine/alcohol has time to dry. If there are smallish bubbles on the face of your tile, don't worry about them. They will work themselves out during the drying process.

9. It is suggested that you allow the tiles to **dry/cool overnight**. However there is an alternative, place them in the oven at the lowest possible setting, approximately 170 degrees F for 15 minutes and then, slowly increase the temperature in your oven by approximately 20-25 degrees every 15-20 minutes - do not allow the tiles to get too hot or to stay in the oven too long! This method simply speeds the process of drying. The maximum temperature your oven should be increased to is approximately 250-350 degrees. However, once the tiles reach 250 degrees I suggest you monitor their progress more closely. NOTE: I do not recommend doing this

(the oven method) if you are using the turpentine method! Turpentine IS HIGHLY FLAMMABLE!

10. Allow the tiles to cool (overnight if possible).

11. Should you wish to use the tiles as coasters, it is necessary to apply a coat of **polycrylic sealant** (available at most home improvement stores, e.g., Lowe's and Home Depot). Applying the Polycrylic sealant will cause the tiles to become shiny. If you want a matte finish, after the polycrylic has dried, apply Krylon Matte Spray varnish over the polycrylic layer.

12. It should be noted that, if it is not a prerequisite that your completed tiles be heat resistant, you could skip the polycrylic step.

13. When completed, these tiles make a beautiful addition to backsplashes, countertops, tabletops, etc.

## **B. BelDecal**

<http://www.beldecal.com/inkjet-instructions.html>

More traditional decal, will probably work on glazed tiles easily.