

# General Shrink Film Instructions

Clear, White, Matte, Black  
& Colors

- Trace by laying over design or draw design on Film (Clear or Matte styles).
- Sand surface with 300-400 grit paper for use with colored pencils and when rubber stamping.
- Cut out design with regular or decorative scissors, craft knife or die cut system **before baking.**
- Punch holes with a paper punch **prior to baking.**
- Preheat oven between 300° and 350°
- Place on medium weight cardboard, teflon sheet, parchment paper or vellum (do not bake on bare metal or on stoneware).
- Cover piece with parchment paper or vellum to keep film from sticking to itself when curling.
- Bake in regular or toaster oven for approximately 2-3 minutes or heat with an embossing tool.
- Do not remove from oven until piece is flat (will curl and then flatten).
- If still slightly curled, remove and flatten with a spatula or cardboard.
- Use gloves if touching before cooled!

## Tips:

- Permanent markers, water based acrylic paints or heat set paint/inks work best on Graftix Shrink Film. We suggest testing on a scrap piece first.
- Sand with medium weight (300-400 grit) sandpaper in a crisscross pattern.
- **Punch or Cut Graftix Shrink Film Before Baking.**
- To determine oven temperature and baking time test with a scrap piece.
- Curling and sticking can be minimized by putting a piece of heavy weight vellum or parchment paper on top of the piece while baking.
- For larger or longer pieces try heating at a lower temperature, slowing the shrinking process.
- If sticking does occur, remove the piece and pull apart when slightly cooled, then reheat to complete shrink process.
- If using an embossing tool, control the shrinking by moving the tool away and closer. To heat evenly, turn the piece over.

# Ink Jet Shrink Film Instructions

Clear & White

- Graftix Ink Jet Shrink Film can be printed on both sides. Be sure you have purchased Ink Jet Shrink Film, our General Shrink Film styles CAN NOT be used in ink jet printers.
- Can be ink jet printed or stamped with rubber stamps
- Size your image 50% larger than desired finished piece.
- Set your printer to normal output, but change the color intensity to a little over minimum (colors intensify when shrinking).
- After printing give the sheet a few seconds to dry before handling.
- Cut out design with regular or decorative scissors, craft knife or die cut system **before baking.**
- Punch holes with a paper punch **prior to baking.**

*Refer to baking instructions in previous section*

## **Project Ideas:**

**Tag Art, Jewelry, Embellishments, School Projects, Paper/Scrapbook Crafts, Zipper Pulls, Key Chains and so much more!**

- Lowering the temperature will slow the absorption of heat, resulting in longer shrink time and reducing distortion.
- Graftix Shrink Film will not shrink perfectly proportionate, please allow for some distortion.
- When shrink film is first removed from the oven it is still pliable and can be shaped - piece(s) will be HOT. Use gloves when handling.
- When baked Graftix Shrink Film will be about 1/3 to 1/2 the original size and will become thicker and harder.
- Try metallic permanent markers on Black style.

## **Working with children:**

- **Adult Supervision is required when working with children.**
- Colored pencils work best on the Matte style, but can be used on White & Clear if sanded first.



**Graftix®**  
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## Helpful Hints for Using Graftix Shrink Film

Place Shrink Film between 2 sheets of vellum when baking to minimize curling. This is especially helpful when shrinking pieces longer than 2”.

Bake 2-3 pieces at a time.

Do not bake Shrink Film on stoneware, metal is best.

If your Shrink Film curls, remove it from the oven, flatten with a spatula and reheat to complete the shrinking process.

All ovens vary. Consider testing Shrink Film with some scraps before shrinking your final pieces.

The larger a Shrink Film piece starts, the harder it is to shrink consistently without curling.

You may design your Shrink Film with permanent markers, paint pens and rubber stamps before *and* after baking.

Rolling a drinking glass over Shrink Film is a great way to flatten it after baking.

Use caution when handling Shrink Film, pieces will be HOT.

