Laser toner transfer methods

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# Thermal methods

Heat transfer paper

Fashion / Cooking glossy magazines / Photo paper / Padding for stickers

Preferably, to use laminator. May require several passes (up to 6 – 10 passes)

Reference:

* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UGI6-AX4T1A>  
  used 150 g/m² glossy paper with laminator at standard settings

# Non-thermal methods

## Ethanol + Acetone

Recipe:

* 80 ml of ethanol
* 30 ml of acetone

Application:

* Apply liquid to the board, spread on the surface
* Apply the template printed in the glossy coated paper (toner to the board, no pressure)
* Wait 5-10 seconds (needed to soften the toner with acetone vapor)
* Press perpendicularly the template (can be done through the paper towel for even force distribution)
* Wait until full dry (about 2 minutes)
* Dip the board into the water until the paper softens (about 2 minutes) and peel the paper from the corner

Alternatively, acetone can be replaced with Toluene or Xylene, but proportion may be needed to adjust.

Reference:

* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HBIxvwZ_0og>

## Nail polish remover

The trick here is combination of ethyl acetate with alcohol within nail polish remover.

Instructions:

* Print the template in glossy paper (fashion / cooking magazines)
* Press and fix the template on the surface of PCB laminate (may need to use duck-tape)
* Apply nail polish remover to paper to make it “transparent”
* Apply pressure (fingers / paint roll) to “glue” the paper to board
* When it “glued”, stop pressing and let dry a bit
* Peel the paper

Reference:

* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cVhSCEPINpM> : uses Moisturizing Polish Remover
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pCE0Zx3Fzpk>
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bZvEccS56Jk> : uses polisher containing acetone + glycerol

## Wood gloss lacquer

Instructions:

* Prepare the piece of laminate (degrease, sand, dry, etc.)
* Prepare the template (mirrored, waxy side of pad for shipping label)
* Apply 2-3 coats of lacquer
* Instantly (while it is still wet) apply the paper with template
* Rob the paper to press the toner into the template (you can use paint roll to help). May take up to several minutes
* Peel the paper from the corner

References:

* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GL0fVtREgRA> : uses to transfer the image to aluminum plate