

**Hydrokon** - is a hydrographic blank PVA film manufactured in the USA. This high quality, customizable and easy to use film is ideal for any hydrodipping project! Hydrokon's unique clear liner makes visualizing your finished product a breeze.

Hydrokon is available in the following thickness:

1,4mil = 35μ

### BENEFITS

- Carrier film made of clear polyester
- Easy carrier removal
- Printable with any design
- Lies flat in the printer
- Consistent quality
- Fluorescent indicator in PVA

### IMAGE PREPARATION

1. Print on the coated side of the film. The coated side has a matte appearance. When the film is removed from the carrier, one side will dissolve in water and the other will not.
2. Allow to dry for approximately 30 minutes after printing. Drying time may vary significantly depending on temperature and humidity.
3. If latex ink is used, the printed film is immediately ready for dipping.
4. If pigment ink is used, apply a light coat of lacquer or fixative to the printed side of the film only. Allow to dry for 30 minutes. See suggestions below.
  - Be sure to use within 2 weeks of lacquer application.
  - Recommended Lacquer: Mohawk Classic Instrument Lacquer (Clear Gloss), Rust-Oleum Clear Lacquer Spray, or clear basecoat/intercoat from your hydrographic paint company.

### PREPARATION OF ITEMS TO DIP

1. Degrease Object
2. Perform Flame Treatment
  - If acetone doesn't affect the surface, flame treatment is most likely required. ABS plastic is the only type of plastic that should not require flame treatment.
3. Scuffing/Bead Blasting
  - Use a heavy-duty scouring pad (e.g., Scotch-Brite) to roughen the surface. The surface of non-plastic items can be roughened by blasting with glass beads or grit.
4. Base Coat Application
  - For an ideal base coat, a primer or adhesion promoter may be required depending on the object and/or paint. If base coat is not hydrographic specific, be sure to dip within 24 hours for best results.

## DIPPING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cut the printed film to the desired size, and then remove the clear backer.
2. Place the film on the water with the printed side up.
3. Recommended water temperature is 32° C (90° F).
4. The film should dwell on the water for 60-75 seconds.
5. Spray activator evenly over the entire film. Activator coverage can be tested on cardboard prior to dipping to visualize spray coverage.

Some activators may require an additional 5-20 seconds dwell time before dipping. Examples of activators include:

- Superbrew from K2
- Ink Drink from OHW
- Hydro Solutions Activator
- ARTwork Activator
- HydroVator PLUS

6. After the object is hydro-dipped, the PVA is removed by rinsing with water. Warm water speeds PVA removal, but the temperature should not exceed 49°C (120°F) to ensure that the image is not removed during rinsing.

7. After the object is rinsed, the surface should no longer feel slimy. However, Hydrokon PVA has a special fluorescent indicator quality that guarantees PVA removal.

When a UV black light is used, the PVA will fluoresce, making it easier to determine when all the PVA has been removed. If there is still a bluish/white glow on the surface, rinse for a longer period of time.

8. Once the PVA has been removed, allow the item to dry completely.

9. Apply your favorite clear coat to protect the surface.

## STORAGE

- Hydrokon film should be stored between 18°-24 °C.
- It is suggested for relative humidity levels to be between 35-55%.

## AVAILABLE FORMATS

Hydrokon is available in the following roll formats:

- 0.61 x 15m rolls
- 1.27 x 45m rolls

[Watch the hydro-dipping process on the manufacturer's YouTube channel!](#)

