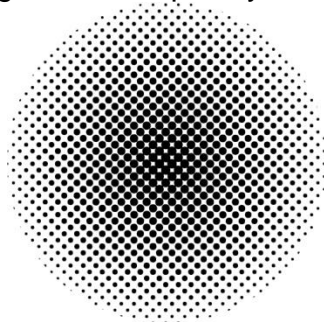


MultIRIP Film

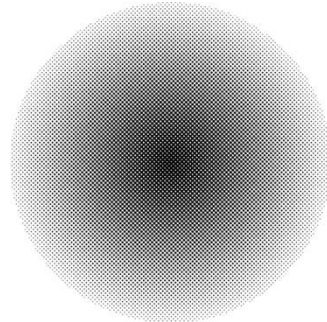
What are Halftones and Why Would You Use Them?

Halftone is a term used for recreating photographic quality pictures that simulate continuous tone imagery through the use of tiny deposits. In screen printing, halftones are used by screen printer when they want to print photographs or designs that have gradients in them. There are three main key terms when printing halftones on film media. Below are short descriptions of these terms.

1. Frequency (AKA Size of Dots) – is the number of dots that will fit in a linear inch. The higher the frequency number is the smaller the dots will be.

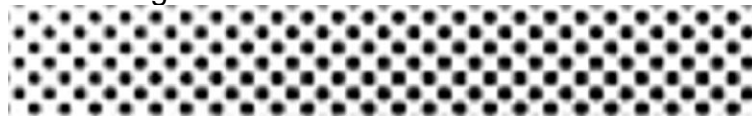


Lower Frequency



Higher Frequency

2. Angle – is the degree of offset between one line of dots to the next line of dots.



The angle of these dots is 45 degrees.

3. Shape – is the shape of dot that is being placed down. There are many different types of shapes that can work, but most screen printers recommend using an Ellipse shape.

One of the challenges with printing film positives with halftones through a standard inkjet printer with a print driver is the printer will print a very light dot that will wash out.

In order to expose the screen properly, you will need a RIP (like MultiRIP Film™ and MultiRIP Hybrid™) that will control the printer to print a small, but dense dot based on your halftone settings.

Some things to consider with printing halftones:

- ❖ Generally speaking, you will need a higher mesh count that will allow you to keep the details of halftone printing.
- ❖ Higher mesh counts will hold a lower amount of emulsion.
- ❖ You will want to use a dyed mesh (usually yellow, amber or orange) to prevent light scattering effect.
- ❖ Dyed mesh will increase the amount of time necessary to expose your screen.
- ❖ Your halftone settings will require a specific mesh count to use. An incorrect mesh count will result in a moiré (checkerboard) pattern.

For additional information on printing halftones, contact a local screen printing supplies distributor or read articles in industry magazines (www.impressionsmag.com and www.nbm.com/pw/).

For additional technical support information, please visit the Frequently Asked Questions page (www.multirip.com/#MRF_FAQ) or contact your Distributor.