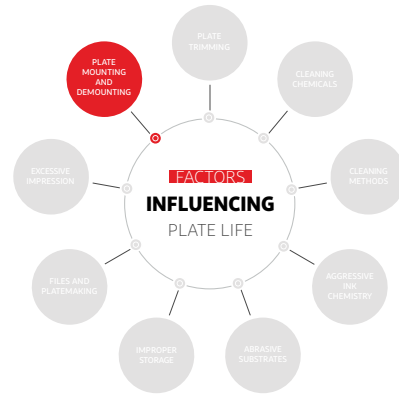


# Plate Mounting and Demounting

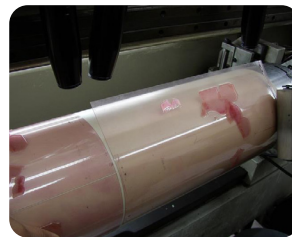


## Plate Mounting

One aspect of printing that is often overlooked is the plate mounting and demounting. Not following best practices can not only create register issues, but also impact plate life. Plate lift is a common defect that is seen which points to incorrect plate mounting procedures. Plate lift often leads to plate damage.

Here are some best practices to follow:

- Clean plate backing with 100% alcohol and allow to dry prior to mounting.
- Use sharp knives when cutting plates.
- If possible, cut plate face down to ensure the backing is cut smoothly.
- Burrs on plate backing left from dull knives allow ink cleaner under plate and cause plate lift.
- Use roller to apply plate to mounting tape.
- The use of hands to rub plate on is not recommended.
- Oils/residues from hands transfer to plate.
- Can actually damage small highlight dots if rubbed too hard with hands.
- Protect plates in the staging area by covering them to prevent them from being exposed to ambient light.



A typical Plate mounting setup at Printers



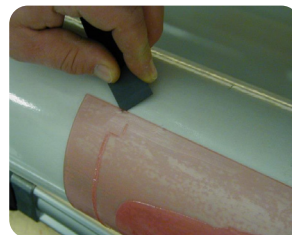
Make sure that plates in the staging area are covered

## Plate Demounting

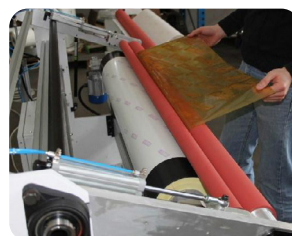
Plates are also damaged during the demounting process. Any nicks or cuts in the plate will result in the plate ripping while demounting, and will result in remake.

### How to Properly Demount to prevent plate damage.

- Hold the demounting tool at a 45° angle. It is not recommended to use a knife or a blade to demount a plate.
- Insert the demounting tool between the base of the plate and tape about 1/4".
- Slide the tool across, releasing the plate edge.
- Grasp the plate and slowly peel the plate then pull in a small quick burst.
- Be careful not to kink the backing or rip the plate.
- Plate demounting machines work great, and take away the manual aspect and the variability associated with demounting.



Recommended Demounting Tool to break the bond between the plate and tape



A demounter - another option to consider which takes out the manual aspects of demounting and the associated ergonomic issues

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