

60-Second Sublimation Pre-Press Checklist

Catch setup mistakes before heat makes them permanent.

Project / Product: _____ Date: _____

Before You Press, Check These 10 Things

- ☐ **1. Blank is sublimation-compatible**
Confirm polyester content or a sublimation-ready coating.
- ☐ **2. Printable surface or coating is undamaged**
Check for scratches, chips, warping, or coating defects.
- ☐ **3. Protective film is removed if applicable**
Inspect metal and other coated blanks before positioning the design.
- ☐ **4. Artwork is sharp at final print size**
Check resolution, scaling, spelling, and final dimensions.
- ☐ **5. Design orientation and mirroring are correct**
Verify text, logos, and layout before printing.
- ☐ **6. Correct side of sublimation paper is loaded**
Use the coated or designated printable side.
- ☐ **7. Printer output has no banding or missing colors**
Inspect the transfer before it reaches the heat press.
- ☐ **8. Blank is clean and dry**
Remove lint, dust, fingerprints, and excess moisture.
- ☐ **9. Transfer is securely positioned**
Use heat-resistant tape and prevent shifting.
- ☐ **10. Time, temperature, and pressure are tested**
Start with the blank maker's guidance and test before a full batch.

Test Press Notes

Blank: _____ Temp: _____ Time: _____ Pressure: _____