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Steamroller Printing with Akua Inks: A brief Q & A

Sometime's prepping for a BIG project can raise lots of questions to ensure you've got everything you need. We put together a list of FAQ's to make things easy.

1. Will the ink dry if it is a hot and sunny day?

- Luckily, you can print for endless hours, regardless if the weather conditions with Akua Intaglio inks. Hot or cold, Akua Intaglio Inks will remain workable for weeks until they're printed on paper.

2. How much ink will I need?

-Quantity of ink needed to supply your project may vary depending on how many prints you wish to pull. However, we have found that each 4' x 8' block requires ¼ - ½ jar of ink (8 oz. size) per print. This calculation is based on printing on block, in one color.

3. Do I need to dampen the paper?

- Dampening of the paper will only be required if the paper is rough or grainy. Smooth papers will not require dampening, but testing your paper ahead of time is always recommended.

4. What is the surface beneath the block?

-Make sure the ground beneath the block is completely cleared of any rocks or pebbles and is flat. Then lay a plastic drop cloth down and tape it to the ground to keep it secure. This surface will serve as your "press bed".

5. What is used between the block and the steamroller?

-Use a piece of Rebond carpet padding that is the same size as your template for your "blanket". This will help guide your paper into the grooves of your woodblock, yielding an embossment.

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