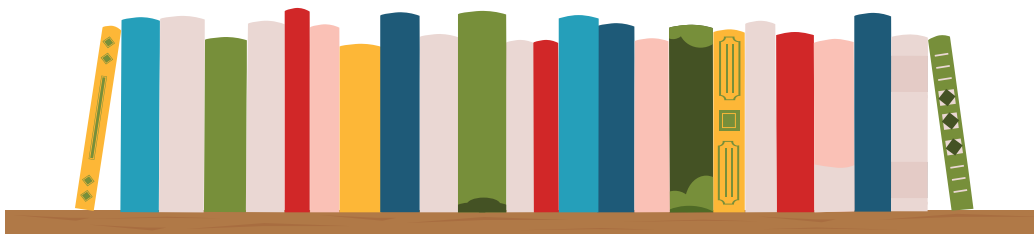


Inkjet Terms Explained

Commonly used inkjet terms often found in sales, marketing, and technical collateral.



Acuity	The sharpness of an image in print. Higher resolution inkjet printheads are able to print finer, higher fidelity images (higher acuity).
Addressability	Ability of the inkjet printhead to control the path and placement of individual ink droplets.
Aqueous	Water-based inkjet ink comprised of both pigment and solution.
Archival	A print that is able to hold its color and detail over time. Non-archival prints can fade over time.
Array	The positioning and placement of individual inkjet nozzles.
Bleed	Ink spreading beyond the initial droplet placement on the substrate.
Blinking	A sudden stop and start of ink ejection, often accompanied by a blob of ink and/or white lines.
Break-off	The point at which surface tension creates an individual ink droplet.
Bricking	(aka Blocking) When stacked sheets stick to each other and do not move freely.
Burnishing	(aka Gloss Lanes) Shinier deformation of a page due to sliding contact with another object such as rollers or wheels.
Capping	Covering the inkjet printhead when not in use to avoid nozzle clogging.
Carboning	Ink setoff from one sheet to another under higher pressures but minimal movement.
Carrier	Base solution of ink where color is added with pigments or dyes.
Catcher	The unit of continuous inkjet that captures unused ink droplets before they reach the printing surface.
Chamber	The cavity area in an inkjet printhead before an ink drop is formed.
CIJ	Continuous (flow) Inkjet. A steady ink stream is ejected and drops are directed to the paper.
Cleaning Solution	A fluid used for cleaning an inkjet printhead.



Coalescence	Ink droplets merging into each other, creating unwanted local higher densities.
Cockle	Wrinkling of paper when too much ink or primer is applied in a small area.
Colorant	Dye or pigment used to produce the ink color.
ColorGrip	Canon's proprietary media pretreatment fluid used to help improve print quality on a wide range of papers.
Color Gamut	Expansive range of color that can be reproduced on a given media.
CPI	Channels Per Inch. Nozzle array density.
Crosstalk	Increase or decrease in ink velocity to a particular channel through the use of adjacent channels.
Curing	Solidifying ink to the sheet using heat or light.
Deflection	Process of charging continuous inkjet droplets to direct them to the sheet or to a recirculation tank.
Deformation	Curl of the paper, caused by the paper itself, or by the amount of ink.
Degassing	Removing dissolved air in the ink to avoid bubbles forming in the printhead.
Delta E	A unit of measuring color differences perceptible by human vision.
Deprime	Failure of ink to be ejected because of air that's trapped in the chamber.
Dispersion	Distribution of pigment or dye particles throughout the ink solution.
Dithering	Screening of a continuous tone image to create a halftone or stochastic pattern.
DOD	Drop on Demand. Printhead technology that uses electromechanical methods to form ink drops.
Dot	The formulation of an ink droplet onto the substrate.
DPI	Dots Per Inch. Measurement of how tightly ink droplets can be formed to one another. Also known as print resolution.
Drop Size	Ink droplet volume, measured in picolitres.
Drop Velocity	Speed of an inkjet droplet ejected from the print nozzle.
Droplet	Individual bead of ink formed when ink is ejected from the printhead.
Drying	Removing moisture and solvents from the wet ink on the substrate.
Drying Time	Time between wet ink and dry to the touch on the substrate.



Duty Cycle	The print engine's maximum recommended monthly page volume at temporary peak capacity.
Dye	Type of colorant in an ink solution that chemically bonds to the substrate.
Fastness	Resistance to color degradation over time either by physical handling or by light.
Feathering	Spreading of ink through fibers of the paper.
Firing	Ejection of the ink droplet.
Fixed Array	Arrangement of printheads that cover the full width of the substrate. The printhead does not move.
Fixing	Forming a sturdy ink film after drying through the use of contact heating.
Flocculation	Coagulation of particles in an ink solution. Can be reversed by ink agitation.
Flush	Pushing or sucking ink through the printhead and/or ink lines.
Gamut	Range of colors that can be produced using the press ink set.
Graininess	Noise or distinct particles visible in areas of color tones.
Heater	In a thermal inkjet printhead, the mechanism that heats the ink so it ejects from the nozzle.
Ink	The solution of dye or pigment with a carrier solution to form colorant.
Ink Limiting	Controlling the amount of ink applied to the sheet to help prevent oversoaking the paper.
Interlaced	Overlapping alignment of ink droplets or rows.
Jet	A stream or droplets of ink that are discharged from the printhead.
Jet Out	Blocked, clogged, or low ink performance out of a particular nozzle, usually causing a small white line.
Ligament	The tail of ink that follows the droplet after ejection.
Line Speed	Rate a substrate can pass under the printhead.
Mottling	Uneven ink color distribution caused by inaccurate dot placement or density.
Picking	Ink sticks and pulls off tiny particles of the paper surface and/or coating.



Piezo	Print method that uses crystals to create and eject an ink droplet from the printhead.
Pigment	Type of colorant suspended in an ink solution that sits on the paper's surface.
Posterization	Unnatural high-contrast color reproduction that loses subtle tonal separation.
Priming	Initializing ink through the empty print lines and printhead to fill with ink.
Print Gap	Distance from the printhead to substrate.
Printhead	Collection of inkjet nozzles.
Puddling	Ink that accumulates on the nozzle plate.
Purge	Cleaning or flushing ink through the system to remove debris or air.
Recirculating	Capturing and reusing ink in continuous flow inkjet systems.
Robustness	How durable and stable ink lays on the sheet, free from artifacts, scratches, etc.
Show Through	Visibility through the sheet / transparency effect, more common with thinner papers.
Solvent	Liquid used as the carrier solution for the pigment or dye.
Stitching	Joining of nozzle arrays to form a continuous printhead.
Streaks	Local deviation of color, impacting the uniformity of large, solid, darker print areas.
Subpulsing	Stirring ink in the chamber with a low amplitude pulse that does not eject ink droplets.
Substrate	The surface of the print media.
Surface Tension	Retention of an ink droplet onto the substrate.
Thermal	Print method that uses heat to create and eject an ink droplet from the printhead.
Vacuum	Cleaning the printhead with negative air pressure to remove debris from the nozzles.
Viscosity	Thickness characteristics of the ink in solution.
Wetting	Spreading of ink on a printed surface.
Wrinkling	Bulging with smaller waves of sheet deformation, usually due to environmental moisture.



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