

Printing Your Treasured Photos on Fabric

For a Quilt, Wall Hanging, pillow or
Whatever creative ideas you can make with fabric.

Materials:

- Tightly woven cotton, 200 thread count or Kona Cotton, preferably white or off white. Pre-wash and iron fabric.
- Freezer paper Or Packaged Fabric Sheets prepared for printing directly on fabric for an Inkjet printer, (preferably not a transfer iron on- comes out stiff)
- Lint roller or tape to remove any lint.
- Iron (no steam)
- Fusible, such as Steam a Seam 2. (optional)
- Photos, clip art, any memorabilia you can photocopy.

Directions (for Inkjet printer only):

1. Plan a theme about a particular person, family. Think about their stories and the times that they lived in.
2. Select photos and/or heirloom collectibles, memorabilia, Newspaper clippings, letters, postcards, handwriting samples, clipart etc. to photocopy.
3. *Photos can be printed from any computer program or from a photocopy.
4. Before you actually print on fabric, you need to make test photo copies on paper so you can plan your design. Decide on sizes of photos needed. Resize as necessary. Any design you can do with paper and scrap booking, you can do in fabric, so have fun and think outside the box.
5. Combine as many items on one page as possible, leaving space for each photo or item to be cut apart in a size you desire (unless it is a collage) or you can of course make one large photo.
6. First cut fabric and freezer paper a bit larger than 8 1/2" x 11".
7. Roll fabric first with a lint roller to avoid fusing any lint into bond. Put shiny side of paper down on fabric and iron with a hot dry iron. Iron both sides. A pressing cloth can be used to avoid burning.
8. *Trim any loose threads, to prevent jamming in your printer.
9. Now cut bonded fabric to freezer paper exactly 8 1/2" x 11". Be sure corners are sealed and no threads are hanging to avoid paper jams.
10. Check your printer settings and set for the highest quality and resolution, and according to your manufacturer. From the File menu, choose Properties, select Best and for paper choose Plain.
11. * Take out all paper from tray and put in prepared fabric, one sheet only. Check with your printer's directions which side to put face down. On my HP Photosmart Printer, I put the fabric, facing down. Test on paper first, in case any adjustments are needed.
12. Heat set with iron, using a press cloth. Every printer is different so you must check that your inks don't run. Item may not be washable, but my test was fine.
13. Spray fixative can be used.