

Letterpress printing

It is one of the oldest printing techniques in the used since the 13th century. Johann Guttenberg is known to have introduced printing from the individually cast, movable type reusable letters set together in a frame in the 14th century. Also known as typographic printing technique, this commercial printing technique, includes production of many copies of an image by repeated direct impression of an inked, raised surface against sheets or a continuation roll paper. The letter press printing process involves printing images by relief type printing plates where the images or printing areas are raised above the non - printing areas. Ink is applied on the roller, which further pass it on to a separate ink bed where a fresh film is picked for the following sheets of paper.

Gutenberg invented this process. Even though it is clearly more advanced than the original press, the process is still the same. On the paper, the image being printed is higher than the surface of the plate, which will be pressed.

Direct printing and indirect printing

- Direct impression of inked movable type onto paper or another receptive surface, the term letterpress

can also refer to the direct impression of inked printmaking blocks such as a photo etched zinc cuts (plates), linoleum blocks, wood engravings, etc. using such a press.

- In 21st century, commercially letterpress has been revived by the use of water wash photopolymer plates which are adhered to a near type high base to produce a relief printing surface typically from digitally rendered art and typography.
- * raised letter pressing against a surface, on which ink is transferred.
- Use for printing borders, rules, illustrations etc.
- Relief printing process.

Similar using an inkpad and stamp

Includes- woodcut, wood engravings, relief etching, linocut, some types of calligraphy,

Contrast with an intaglio print. (Engravings or an etching, where the areas to print black are below the original surface of the matrix and the original surface of the matrix will print blank)

On the basis of printing surface or master and the surface on which paper is placed

+ Platen-type

+ Flat- bed cylinder

+ Rotatory Letter press printing