

Material Guide Sublimation Aluminum



Sublimation aluminum is a specially coated aluminum material designed for dye-sublimation printing, a process where heat and pressure are used to transfer dye into the surface coating of the metal. This material is commonly used for vibrant, full-color images, signage, awards, and decorative panels.

CHARACTERISTICS of SUBLIMATION ALUMINUM:

- **Sublimation-Ready Coating:**
 - Coated with a polymer-based layer that absorbs sublimation dyes when heated.
 - Accepts high-resolution, full-color images, including photographs and detailed graphics.
- **Vivid, Full-Color Output:**
 - Brilliant colors and deep blacks due to the dye being embedded into the coating.
 - Can reproduce photographic-quality images with rich detail and gradients.
- **Durable and Scratch-Resistant Surface:**
 - Once sublimated and cooled, the coating becomes scratch and moisture-resistant.
- **Glossy finish:**
 - This finish offers maximum color vibrancy, depth, and a high-definition, reflective sheen. It's ideal for making images "pop" and achieving a dramatic, contemporary look.
- **Lightweight and Rigid:**
 - Maintains aluminum's high strength-to-weight ratio.
 - Ideal for wall-mounted signs, plaques, and framed art.
- **Versatile Application Formats:**
 - Available in pre-cut blanks (tags, plates, signs).
 - Available in sheet stock for custom cuts
 - Available with pre-drilled or adhesive-backed options.
- **Application-Ready:**
 - Compatible with heat presses or flatbed sublimation systems.
 - Used with sublimation inks only—not compatible with standard inkjet or laser printers.

APPLICATIONS for SUBLIMATION ALUMINUM:

- **Awards & Plaques:**
 - Full-color awards with Logos and custom text
 - Background images or gradients
 - Employee recognition signs
 - Sports trophies
 - Academic honors
 - Corporate milestones
- **Signage:**
 - Indoor signs with vivid graphics
 - Directional signs
 - Office and building signs
 - Informational signs
 - Suitable for retail, hospitality, healthcare, and educations
- **Promotional Products:**
 - Custom-branded key chains
 - Custom-branded bag tags
 - Custom-branded coasters
- **Laboratory & Medical Tags:**
 - Durable, chemical-resistant labels for sample containers
 - Durable, chemical-resistant labels for medical trays
 - Durable, chemical-resistant labels for lab equipment

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BENEFITS of SUBLIMATION ALUMINUM:

- **Vivid, Full-Color Output:**
 - Photo-quality images: Sublimation aluminum produces rich, high-resolution prints, ideal for photographs, artwork, or colorful logos.
 - Wide color gamut: Allows for accurate gradients, fine details, and vibrant tones.
 - No pixelation or surface texture: Images appear smooth and embedded into the surface.
- **Durable and Long-Lasting:**
 - Scratch-resistant: The printed image is infused into the coating, not just printed on top.
 - Moisture-resistant: Great for kitchens, bathrooms, and humid environments.
 - Fade-resistant: Many sublimation aluminum products are UV-stable and rated for indoor or limited outdoor use.
- **Lightweight Yet Strong:**
 - Maintains aluminum's strength-to-weight ratio, making it easy to hang or mount without heavy-duty hardware.
 - Rigid and warp-resistant, unlike some paper or plastic substrates.
- **Variety of Finishes:**
 - Available in glossy, matte, satin, brushed, and even metallic finishes.
 - Different finishes enhance the look of color, detail, and texture depending on the application.
- **Easy to Clean and Maintain:**
 - Non-porous surface: Resists fingerprints and smudges.
 - Can be wiped clean with a soft cloth and mild cleaners without damaging the image.
- **Seamless Printing Process:**
 - No raised ink or texture: The dye becomes part of the material.
 - No additional lamination or sealing required—ready to use straight out of the press.



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