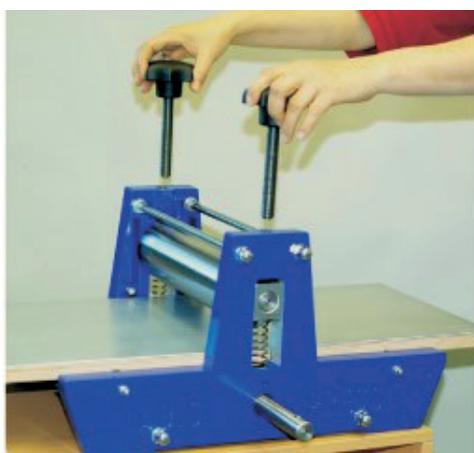


PRINTING PRESS

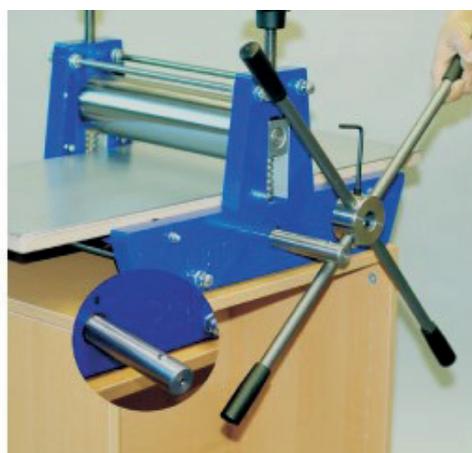
P690 / P693

This press is ideal for all forms of intaglio and relief printing including lino, block, etching plates and is also suitable for use with Litho Plate Masters.

These printing and etching presses are easy to use. Once unpacked place the pair of black star hand wheels in position (i). Next line up the divot in the protruding rod with the screw hole in the turning handle. Using an Allen key fix in position with the screw (ii). Slide the plate under the rollers. Unwrap the blanket (WARNING THIS MAY LOOK LIKE PACKING ROLLED UP BUT IT IS THE BLANKET!) Place the blanket on the plate. The machine is then ready to use. All working parts of the press should be lubricated prior to use and frequently to ensure smooth movement of the roller and plate. See the end of these notes to locate parts. DO NOT APPLY TOO MUCH DOWNWARD PRESSURE - SEE MASTER OFF-CUT ADVICE

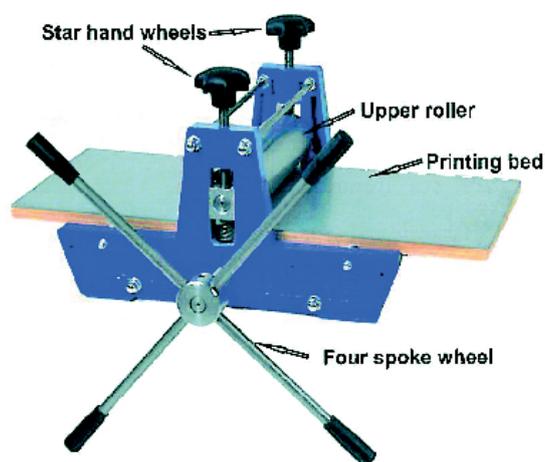


(i)



(ii)

P693 Printing Press with geared plate - For some presses the printing plate is not mounted between the rollers for better transportation. The geared plate is secured by one screw on each corner of the plate. This is to ensure the plate is always in the press. Before use, you have to mount the plate between the upper and lower roller and secure it with the screws against moving out uncontrolled.



Instructions for Use

Friction Presses (P690) rely on the downward pressure of the top roller to move the print bed along. The movement of the plate bed for Geared Presses (P693) are aided by the gears engaging with the teeth on the plate bed.

To prevent a Friction Press from stopping at the edge of your plate when you are trying to print, please read the notes below about preparing some master offcuts, and also watch the video below if needed:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iT_a8Pek8kQ

Place your master (eg. lino cut) in the middle of the printing plate and stick down with double sided tape/BLU-Tack etc to avoid slipping.

To aid the roller to glide smoothly it may be necessary to build up the plate on either side of your master to give a level surface. Using off cuts of the material used for your master is ideal.

Before applying ink place two pieces of paper and a felt blanket over the master whilst setting the height of the roller. Turn the two black handles symmetrically until the roller is applying enough pressure to move the plate smoothly by turning the star shaped handle.

Once the plate is moving smoothly you can lift back the felt, remove the papers and ink your master. Gently place your printing paper in position without slipping and cover with a clean sheet of paper to prevent any bleeding of ink onto the felt blanket.

To print, turn the star shaped handle. Remove the printed sheet and check finished print, if the print is too light simply lower the roller further, if the print has nudged, reduce the pressure by moving roller upwards. Please note too much pressure may damage a design very quickly.



For Friction Presses only.

Master Off-Cuts run the full length of the printing press plate bed. The master off-cuts are the same depth as your etching or lino plate.

Always pay attention while working with the press. Especially take care not to trap clothing or other persons into moving parts. Ensure that only one person is working at the press at one time. On certain models the printing plate is not fixed to the base. This means the plate can be moved completely along with the rollers and fall from the base. Ensure the plate never over runs the base, if the plate falls it could cause damage to yourself and the plate.

General Instructions for printing with both types of presses

You will need: Printing plate, ink, ink roller, printing paper, scrap paper sheets for protecting the print bed and the felt blanket.

- 1) To find the right pressure for your print first trying running your plate through the press without inking in. Place a scrap piece of paper on the metal plate bed, followed by your ink free etched plate followed by another piece of paper and cover with the felt blanket.
- 2) Turning the star hand wheels evenly lower the top roller low enough so when you turn the spoke wheel handle the plate bed moves across the blanket. You can ensure that your roller has been lowered evenly by placing a spirit level on top of the roller (ensure your table is level first!)
- 3) Once you are happy with the pressure remove your etched/lino plate and ink it up. You can either put the paper you wish to print on straight onto the plate bed and then place your inked plate onto the right position on your paper, or alternatively, plate your inked plate face up on the scrap paper and place your printing paper over the top of the inked plate. Finding the right position for your printing paper for the latter option will require you marking up your plate bed with masking tape. Create 2 right angles with the tape to determine where you position the corners of your printing paper to get your print onto the right area of your paper.

Maintaining your press

It's essential to do some low-level maintenance from time to time to keep things running smoothly.

Traditionally there is little to go wrong with a press however it is recommended that the moving parts need oiling a few times a year depending on use and room atmosphere.

1. Oil the roller bearings by using the oil holes on both side of the body of the press near the lower roller and the oil holes in the bearing stones of the top roller. Rotate the rollers and keep oiling to ensure that the oil is fully distributed. WD40 is normally a good type of lubricant to use.
2. Oil or grease all moving parts such as the sliding surface of bearing stones in the body, the thread of the two handles and the 4 bearing rolls for the printing plate.

