

DEVELOPING BASKET INSTRUCTION SHEET

Patent Pending

The wire developing basket was designed to eliminate emulsion scratching and uneven development associated with conventional tray development of 4X5 sheet film as used in the home darkroom. Following the step by step instructions listed below will produce scratch-free, evenly developed negatives with a minimum of risk.

NOTE: As with any developing process, correct negative densities are dependent on TIME, TEMPERATURE and AGITATION. ZONE system enthusiasts will have to test for optimum TIMES to use with the following agitation method. Otherwise start with recommended small tank developing times.

AGITATION is achieved by *gently* rocking the tray for 5 seconds out of every 30 seconds of developing time (5 sec out of every 15 sec with *Pyro). Keep the agitation as random as possible by rocking the tray left and right, back and forth during each agitation period. If liquid is sloshing out of the tray, you are rocking too hard. Remember, consistent agitation is the key to consistent results.

*Pyro - If your Pyro negatives are too low in contrast you may wish to try constant agitation. For constant agitation, lift one edge of the tray enough to feel the weight of the solution shift, about 3 seconds a side. Work around the developing tray lifting each edge in turn, right edge, far edge, left edge, near edge, right edge, etc. Keep working around the tray in this manor untill development is completed.

EQUIPMENT:

DEV. BASKET; 4 sheet size, (8X10 tray); 6 sheet size, (11X14 tray).
TRAYS; 4ea, either 8X10 or 11X14 depending on basket size.
USUALS; Thermometer, Graduates, Filmclips, Rinse tray, Etc.

CHEMICALS:

DEVELOPER; Your favorite.
STOP BATH; (optional) 1 part print strength stop bath diluted in 3 parts water.
FIXER; Kodak hardening fixer or equal.
FILTERED WATER; As needed.

SETUP:

Arrange the 4 trays in order, 1-water; 2-developer; 3-stop bath; 4-fixer. Keep all fluids within 3 or 4 degrees of the developer temperature. Only use enough developer to fill a tray to a depth of approximately 1/2 inch. (32 ounces works well in an 8X10 tray)

You should be ready, Proceed to page two.

- STEP 1: Arrange basket, film holders, and trays on the work (or sink) space so you can identify them in the dark.
- STEP 2: Lights out.
- STEP 3: Remove film from film holders one sheet at a time and insert into basket compartments, EMULSION SIDE UP, one sheet per compartment. Any number of film sheets can be processed up to the baskets capacity.
- STEP 4: Set the loaded basket in presoak tray #1. Gently, with the balls of the fingers, push the film below the water surface. It is best to use the middle two or three fingers with smooth skin and well trimmed nails. The thumb and little finger have the wrong angle on the nail and greatly increase the chances of scratching the film surface (Alternately, quickly shaking the tray with the loaded basket in it will sink the film to the bottom without using a finger to push it down, try it first with the lights on to get the feel). Once the film is submerged it will remain under the surface and will not require touching (or shaking) until inserted into the next tray. Presoak with agitation for time recommended by the manufacturer. Use 60 seconds if no other information is available
- STEP 5: At the end of presoak time lift basket gently, tipping slightly to allow water to drain back into tray. Place basket into tray #2. Again, gently push film below developer surface using the middle fingers. IMMEDIATELY start the developing timer and do the first agitation cycle. Then follow one of the agitation methods as described.
- STEP 6: When development is complete, lift, tip, and drain a few seconds. IMMEDIATELY move basket to tray #3 (stop bath) and push film below surface. Agitate continuously for 10 seconds and move to fixer (don't forget to tip and drain).
- STEP 7: Set timer for recommended fix cycle. After 2 minutes in the fix you may turn on the lights. Finish fix and move basket into a rinse tray while you prepare the hypo clear, wash, and photo-flo baths.
- STEP 7a: If using staining PYRO, move film directly from the fix tray back into the PYRO tray for 2 minutes and then directly to the wash 30 for minutes.
- STEP 8: Place basket in the hypo clear tray (2min), wash tray (5min), and finish in photo-flo (1min). Remove film sheets from basket one sheet at a time, hang in a dust free area to dry and you're done.

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