

B41N

PRINTING PLATES OR FOILS (photosensitive material [G03](#)); MATERIALS FOR SURFACES USED IN PRINTING MACHINES FOR PRINTING, INKING, DAMPING, OR THE LIKE; PREPARING SUCH SURFACES FOR USE AND CONSERVING THEM {In this subclass the COPEs System is used}

Definition statement

This place covers:

- Printing plates or foils
- Materials for surfaces used in printing machines for printing, inking, damping, or the like.
- Preparing such surfaces for use and conserving them.

References

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Processes for the manufacture or reproduction of printing surfaces	B41C
Printing machines or presses	B41F
Photography; cinematography; electrography; holography	G03

B41N 1/00

Printing plates or foils; Materials therefor

Definition statement

This place covers:

Substrates for printing plates or foils.

Treatment of such plates or foils.

B41N 1/083

{made of aluminium or aluminium alloys or having such surface layers ([B41N 1/086](#) takes precedence)}

References

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Alloys based on aluminium as such	C22C 21/00
-----------------------------------	----------------------------

B41N 1/24

Stencils; Stencil materials; Carriers therefor (stencilling apparatus for office or other commercial use [B41L 13/00](#))

References**Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Forme preparation for stencil-printing or silk-screen printing	B41C 1/14
--	---------------------------

B41N 1/241

{characterised by the adhesive means}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Stencils, stencil materials or carriers therefor, wherein the adhesive means is between different layers.

B41N 3/00

Preparing for use and conserving printing surfaces

Definition statement

This place covers:

Pre-treatment of printing plates.

After-treatment of printing plates.

Treatment of both imaged and non-imaged printing plates.

B41N 3/006

{Cleaning, washing, rinsing or reclaiming of printing formes other than intaglio formes ([B41N 3/06](#) takes precedence)}

Definition statement

This place covers:

The regeneration of printing plates.

B41N 3/03

Chemical or electrical pretreatment

Relationships with other classification places

Usually the hydrophilic coating of the substrate is classified in [B41N 3/03](#) and its hierarchical lower subgroups (see the table in the definition statement of the subgroup [B41C 1/10](#)). However, if an application claims a conventional method for making lithographic printing plates having a highly unusual hydrophilic layer, then the appropriate classification entry is [B41C 1/1016](#), since [B41N 3/03](#) does not relate to the preparation of printing plates per se.

B41N 3/08

Damping; Neutralising or similar differentiation treatments for lithographic printing formes; {Gumming or finishing solutions, fountain solutions, correction or deletion fluids, or on-press development (treatment of materials containing silver salts [G03F 7/063](#); developers per se for processing photosensitive materials [G03F 7/32](#))}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Developing with dampening water, also the composition of the dampening liquids.

The compositions of fountain solutions and gumming solutions.

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Processing photosensitive materials	G03F 7/26
Liquid compositions for imagewise removal of photosensitive materials using liquid means, e.g. developers	G03F 7/32

B41N 6/00

Mounting boards; {Sleeves} Make-ready devices, e.g. underlays, overlays; Attaching by chemical means, e.g. vulcanising

Definition statement

This place covers:

- Mounting boards.
- Sleeves.
- Make-ready devices, e.g. underlays, overlays.
- Attaching by chemical means, e.g. vulcanising.
- Attaching the printing formes on the cylinder.

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Devices for attaching printing elements or formes to supports (i.e. mechanical aspects of the fastenings as such)	B41F 27/00
Devices for attaching coverings or make-ready devices; Guiding devices for coverings (i.e. mechanical aspects of the fastenings as such)	B41F 30/00

B41N 7/00

Shells for rollers of printing machines

Definition statement

This place covers:

Shells for rollers of printing machines, which are not printing cylinders or blankets.

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Damping rollers (i.e. mechanical aspects as such)	B41F 7/26
Construction of inking rollers	B41F 31/26

Special rules of classification

When classifying in this group or in its subgroups and if the invention lies in a specific layer, an Indexing Code (a hierarchical subgroup of [B41N 2207/00](#)) shall be given to specify said layer (e.g. backlayer, intermediate layer, cover layer, etc.).

B41N 10/00

Blankets or like coverings; Coverings for wipers for intaglio printing (wipers for intaglio printing [B41F 9/08](#))

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Transfer cylinders; Offset cylinders	B41F 13/193
--------------------------------------	-----------------------------

B41N 10/02

Blanket structure

Definition statement

This place covers:

Inventions relating to e.g. monolayer blankets, blankets having a special support, blankets having a surface of specific smoothness, etc.

B41N 10/04

multi-layer

Definition statement

This place covers:

Multilayer printing blankets (two or more layers).

Special rules of classification

When classifying in this subgroup and if the invention lies in a specific layer, an Indexing Code (a hierarchical subgroup of [B41N 2210/00](#)) shall be given to specify said layer (e.g. backlayer, intermediate layer, cover layer, etc.).

B41N 11/00**Stereotype mats****Definition statement**

This place covers:

Molded matrices or mats of papier-mâché or similar material for casting the stereotype printing plates from hot metal.