

## B41D

**APPARATUS FOR THE MECHANICAL REPRODUCTION OF PRINTING SURFACES FOR STEREOTYPE PRINTING; SHAPING ELASTIC OR DEFORMABLE MATERIAL TO FORM PRINTING SURFACES (engraving by spark erosion B23P; type, machines or accessories for making, setting, or distributing type B41B; processes for the manufacture or reproduction of printing surfaces B41C; machines or apparatus for engraving in general, or for embossing B44B3/00, B44B5/00; chemical etching of metal C23F1/00; electrolytic etching C25F3/00 ; photomechanical reproduction G03F)**

### Definition statement

*This subclass/group covers:*

Making of stereotype printing surfaces, means for casting stereotype plates including machines, moulds and accessories, processes for handling and treating stereotype plates, and processes for preparing stereotype matrices.

Means and processes for shaping into relief form elastic or deformable material like rubber or plastics. The raised parts having an almost flat top surface define the image to be printed, e.g. alphanumerical or decorative symbols, in relief or letterpress type printing apparatus.

### Informative references

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

Flat type-bed letterpress or relief printing presses in general	<a href="#">B41F 1/02-B41F 1/14</a> , <a href="#">B41F 3/02-B41F 3/28</a>
Rotary letterpress machines in general	<a href="#">B41F 5/00</a>
Flexographic rotary letter press machines in general	<a href="#">B41F 5/24</a>
Letterpress printing apparatus specifically adapted for office or other commercial purposes	<a href="#">B41L 15/00</a>
Stereotype printing plates per se in general	<a href="#">B41N 1/00</a>
Printing plates having elastic or deformable material in general	<a href="#">B41N 1/12</a>

Stereotype mats	<a href="#">B41N 11/00</a>
Foundry moulding in general	<a href="#">B22C</a>
Casting of metals in general	<a href="#">B22D</a>
Shaping or joining of plastics in general	<a href="#">B29C</a>
Producing particular articles from plastics including rubber	<a href="#">B29D</a>

### **Glossary of terms**

*In this subclass/group, the following terms (or expressions) are used with the meaning indicated:*

Stereotype plates	stiff metallic plates cast from a multilayer tissue paper and/or plaster containing matrix. This latter matrix is produced by applying fluid plaster or said multilayer tissue paper by using contact pressure onto the surface of a type bed being filled with a prearranged set of printing types carrying alphanumerical or decorative symbols representing e.g. a full page to be printed, fixed together in an open frame.
Stereotype printing surfaces	letterpress or relief type printing devices used in flat type bed printing presses and in rotary letterpress machines.

### **Synonyms and Keywords**

In patent documents the following expressions "stereotype printing surfaces", "stereoplate" and "cliché" are often used as synonyms.

## **B41D 1/00**

### **Preparing or treating stereotype matrices**

### **Definition statement**

*This subclass/group covers:*

Shaping the matrices by exerting pressure and further secondary treating steps like cleaning, moistening or drying the matrices, specific technology mostly used until year 2000.

### **B41D 3/00**

**Casting stereotype plates; Machines, moulds, or devices therefore**

### **Definition statement**

*This subclass/group covers:*

Machines, casting and moulding devices specifically adapted for manufacturing stereotype printing plates, specific technology mostly used until the year 2000.

### **B41D 5/00**

**Working, treating, or handling stereotype plates**

### **Definition statement**

*This subclass/group covers:*

Deforming, e.g. bending, and transporting flat or curved stereotype plates, specific technology mostly used until the year 2000.

### **B41D 7/00**

**Shaping elastic or deformable material, e.g. rubber, plastics material, to form printing surfaces (making rubber printing blocks B41C3/04)**

### **Definition statement**

*This subclass/group covers:*

Shaping of rubber or plastics exclusively for manufacturing of relief type or of letterpress type printing surfaces, e.g. flexographic printing plates, mechanical apparatus for said shaping of rubber or plastics.

### **Informative references**

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

Shaping or joining of plastics in general	<a href="#">B29C</a>
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Producing particular articles from plastics including rubber	<a href="#">B29D</a>
Chemical treatment of plastics or rubber for manufacturing printing surfaces in general	<a href="#">B41C 1/00</a>
Processes for reproduction or duplicating to produce printing blocks from plastics	<a href="#">B41C 3/06</a>

### **Glossary of terms**

*In this subclass/group, the following terms (or expressions) are used with the meaning indicated:*

Relief type printing surfaces	printing surfaces that are defined by raised parts having an almost flat top surface defining an alphanumerical letter or defining any other design or symbol.
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### **B41D 99/00**

**Subject matter not provided for in other groups of this subclass**

### **References relevant to classification in this group**

*This subclass/group does not cover:*

Preparing or treating stereotype matrices	<a href="#">B41D 1/00</a>
Casting stereotype plates; machines, moulds, or devices therefore	<a href="#">B41D 3/00</a>
Working, treating, or handling stereotype plates	<a href="#">B41D 5/00</a>
Shaping elastic or deformable material, e.g. rubber, plastic material, to form printing surfaces	<a href="#">B41D 7/00</a>

