

Metallic Inks

Gans' Metallic inks contain metallic powders such as aluminum and zinc/copper alloys. When mixed with the correct varnish and printed on a suitable stock, they produce a pleasing metallic luster. The high brilliance characterizing these inks is caused by the "leafing" effect of metal flakes - that is the flat surface of the particles overlap and lay parallel to the surface of the substrate.

Gans' Metallic Golds (P871 – P876) & Silver (P877) Ink are pre-mixed to match the Pantone Metallic Formula Guides. These inks are ready to use from the can, have an excellent shelf life and will wet trap over other colors. If any reduction is needed, up to 2% of Klear Kut Reducer (#71069) may be added.

Pantone Poly Metallics (P8001 - P8963) are supplied press ready but have limited shelf life. These inks should be ordered on an as-needed basis and printed within 72 hours of manufacture, otherwise significant discoloration may occur.

Slivers

Gans offers two additional metallic silver inks with slightly different properties and brilliance:

Low Paste Silver (#88998) contains reduced amounts of metal and offers slightly less brilliance but considerably improved binding and rub resistance.

Imitation Silver (#87978) contains organic toners and a comparatively small amount of metal, which results in a reduction of the leafing effect. However, this ink is a good choice as a first down color for wet trapping.

IMPORTANT - While metallics are not recommended by Gans or the copier manufacturers for jobs that require processing through a laser printer (e.g. letterhead) satisfactory results have been obtained using Two-Part Golds and Wax-Free Silver (#88998W). We strongly recommend pre-testing to determine suitability. Metallics may be used on jobs that are going to be thermographed.

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Applications - Metallic inks are used in most printing applications and they can be run on small for-

mat presses, as well as larger equipment. We recommend that you use a neutral or mildly acidic fountain solution. You can run metallic inks on any metal or non-metal plate, however, be sure to thoroughly rinse paper or plastic plates with tap water before mounting them on press. This will remove most of the surface acid chemistry that may attack the varnishes in the ink and possibly cause it to emulsify excessively.

Stocks - These inks achieve the highest metallic effect when printed on coated stocks. If you must print on an uncoated paper, a base ink (#7414D Wax-Free Size) may be printed first and allowed to dry, then overprinted with the metallic. Also, some very absorbent stocks may require a double pass of ink.

Imprinting – Overprinting color should be low in tack, soft and applied within 24 hours of printing the metallic.

Coatings – An overprint varnish or water -based coating may be applied to avoid tarnishing from finger marking or atmospheric pollution. When using aqueous coatings, UV coatings, or laminating over inks, there is the potential for those inks to bleed and change appearance over time. Pigments that are at risk are rhodamine red, purple, reflex blue, violet, warm red and fluorescent colors. Be sure to specify a bleed-resistant formula for all print jobs to be laminated or requiring either UV or aqueous coatings.

Stability – Sealed cans stored in a cool, dry place will remain stable for up to 2 years, except for the Pantone Poly Metallics, which have a very limited shelf life (see above). Do not return ink from the fountain to the can because this will dramatically reduce its shelf life.

GANS INK & SUPPLY COMPANY
1441 BOYD STREET ❖ LOS ANGELES ❖ CA ❖ 90033
(800) 421-6167 ❖ (323) 264-2200 ❖ FAX: (323) 264-2916