

Duplicating silver halide film: preparation

The following are typical steps in preparing the silver halide roll microfilm, chemicals and the processor before the processing can begin.

1. Preparing film

step/comments and examples

1. check lengths of leader and trailer

Holding a leader



2. check density of master or printing master

Using a densitometer



2. Preparing the duplicator

steps

1. first carry out cleaning and maintenance steps
2. determine settings on duplicator

Left: Lamp and speed dials

Right: Density chart



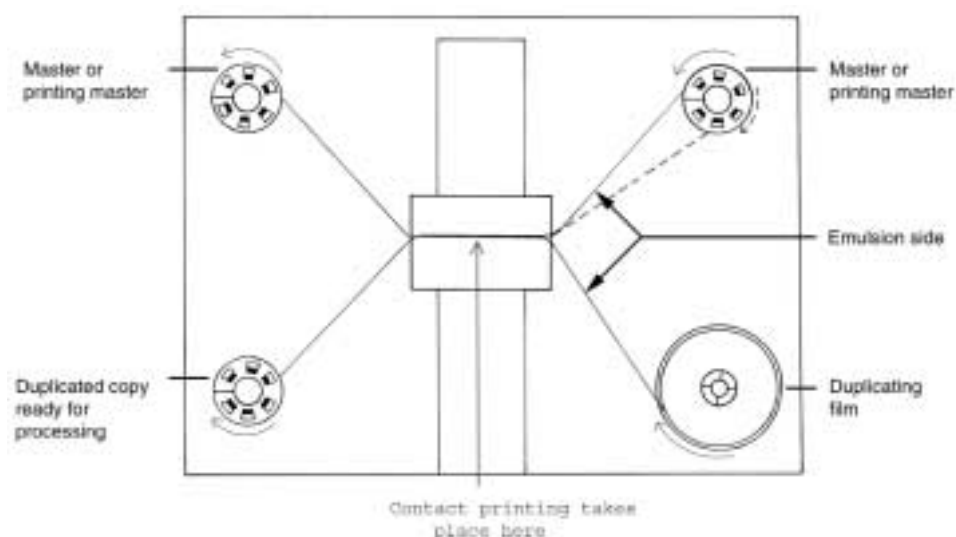
3. load take-up reels

4. identify correct duplicating film

Duplicating film types



Loading a roll duplicator



3. Loading a duplicator

The need for darkroom conditions may differ between duplicator models.

steps

1. load the master film correctly (emulsion side makes contact with duplicating film)
2. thread master
3. darkroom conditions
4. select duplicating film
5. load duplicating film
6. thread duplicating film (press transport switch on – adjust speed so that film moves slowly through vacuum head – switch transport switch off)

Duplicating film and master emerging from vacuum head



7. attach duplicating and master films onto take-up reels

Attaching duplicating and master films to take-up reels



8. check lamp arm is fully extended

4. Operating a duplicator

1. set exposure lamp and speed setting
2. switch ON lamp, vacuum, transport
3. switch OFF transport and vacuum (rotate speed dial back to zero)
4. cut off duplicate copy (place in light-proof container for processing)
5. repeat process for more copies

This type of roll film duplicator only duplicates the film. The duplicated film still needs to be processed as the next stage.