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Film: BPFB-18

Blue-sensitive film of moderately high contrast. It can be used for copying continuous-tone B&W pictures and for making high-light masks. BPFB is especially useful, however, for making both interpositives and, subsequently, duplicate negatives from original B&W negatives. This two-step duplicating process allows great control over the quality of the final negative and permits the making of either same-sized duplicates (by contact), or enlarged negatives. Enlarged duplicate negatives are commonly used in alternative processes (platinum, palladium, gelatine and gum bichromate printing, print-out paper etc.), for all of these processes require a film "at" the finished size.

Supports

The same emulsion is coated onto both films, the difference being the thicknesses of their respective bases (BPFB-10 : 10 μ , BPFB-18 : 18 μ) Both films have an anti-halation backing.

Color Sensitivity

The emulsion, being blue sensitive, has a maximum sensitivity of about 450 nm.

Safelight

Red safelight, as from a 15 w lamp fitted with a Wratten 1A filter and placed 1 meter from the workbench, works well for laboratory lighting. It is a good idea from time to time to test for safelight fogging.

Exposure

The following exposure values will vary from one user to the next, and are offered only as suggestions :

For copywork of documents, using two 1000w Xenon lamps at a distance of 1 meter , or two 45 A arc lamps : 20 seconds at f/ 64

For contact printing, the exposure time is about 7 seconds using diffused lighting.

If the light intensity of the contact printer is adjustable, it should be at 20 lux/second.

Development

Any good, standard continuous tone film developer, in tray, machine, or tank, can be used to develop BPFB-18.

Fixing and Washing

After development, the use of an acid stop bath is recommended as it will help preserve the fixer. Minimum fixing time in a fresh fixer should be 7 minutes for a normal fixer, and 5 minutes in a rapid fixer.

Storage

BPFB-18 films must be kept in a cool and dry place, ideally at a temperature not exceeding 21°C (68° F), and at a relative humidity of 50%.

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