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Photo Paper: Variable NB

Variable NB is a double weight photographic paper with a high quality emulsion. Its superb fiber base gives it exceptional results and whiteness. Surface is glossy. It gives a neutral image tone.

Variable NB can produce an image from a soft tone to an exceptionally hard tone due to the emulsion incorporating both blue and green sensitivities. By using a multi filter set, contrast range from 0 to 5 are available, in half grade increments from a single paper.

QUANTITY	SIZE (cm)
25 Sheets	24 x 30
25 Sheets	30 x 40
25 Sheets	40.6 x 50.8
25 Sheets	50.8 x 60.9
Roll	1.08 x 10m Roll

QUANTITY	SIZE (in)
25 Sheets	8 x 10
25 Sheets	11 x 14
25 Sheets	16 x 20
25 Sheets	20 x 24
Roll	1.08 x 20m Roll

Contrast

Using Ilford's Multigrade 2 filter set, 12 contrast grades are possible from this paper. With Kodak's Polycontrast 2 which are recommended, 11 contrast grades are available.

Handling

Red safelight as for VC paper is recommended. It is a good idea to test for safelight fog from time-to-time.

Exposure

Double weight glossy PRESTIGE paper can be exposed with all enlarger and printer light source. Be aware that some older types of cold light tubes may normally require more yellow filtration.

Development

Process in any good quality paper developer at 20°C (68°F) for 1,5 to 2 min. with continuous agitation. Bergger « ecco » developers work particularly well with this paper.

Stop Bath

An acid stop bath is optional but recommended. It quickly stops development by neutralizing alkali. This also helps extend fixer life. Dilution : 25 cc of 28% acetic acid in 1 litre of water. Stop bath time : 15 seconds or 20 to 30 seconds of water rinse.

Fixing (Maximum Time : 10 Minutes)

Treat in a conventional sodium thiosulfate fixer for a minimum of 5 min. at 20°C (68°F). Normal fixer capacity is 1,5 sqm/litre. A two bath fixing method (at 2,5 min per bath) may be used to avoid under-fixing. When the first bath is exhausted, replace it with the second bath and mix a fresh « second bath ».

With ammonium thiosulfate (« rapid ») fixers, treat for 30 to 45 seconds only, then give a thorough pre-wash for 5 min. Next, treat with a wash-aid (see « WASHING », below) with frequent agitation for 10 min before transferring to a final wash.

After-Treatments

VARIABLE NB responds well to bleaching and toning. To increase print life and deepen dark tones, prints may be treated in a selenium toner of about 1 :15 dilution.

Washing

The use of a wash aid (such as Kodak Hypo Clearing Agent) will reduce your wash time and increase the efficiency of your washing. As well, it will help guarantee the permanence of your photograph.

Wash PRESTIGE in running water at a rate fast enough to completely change once every 5 minutes. Wash time is 1 hour at 20°C (68°F) or 30 min. if a wash aid has been used.

Drying

To effect even and rapid drying, you may use a wetting agent as a final rinse. Excess water should be removed from the surface of prints with a clean sponge or squeegee. Prints may then be dried in dust-free air on drying screens or in a clean photo-blotter.

Finishing

VARIABLE NB may be retouched, spotted and mounted using normal methods.

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