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Photo Paper: Prestige Variable CM

PRESTIGE VARIABLE CM is a double weight, semi-matte variable contrast photographic paper with a warm black image tone. It comes on a heavy fibre-base stock of 300g per sqm and gives superb results.

PRESTIGE VARIABLE CM can produce contrast grades ranging from soft to exceptionally hard due to an emulsion incorporating both blue and green sensitivities. With a multicontrast filter set, contrast grades from 0 to 5 are available in half-step increments.

Handling

A red safelight (such as one fitted with a Wratten 1A filter) is recommended. With a 15 watt bulb used direct illumination, minimum working distance is 1,5 meters (5 feet). Safelight exposure longer than 2 minutes may lead noticeable fog. It is a good idea to test for safelight fog time-to-time.

Exposure

PRESTIGE VARIABLE CM can be exposed with any enlarger or printer light source. As with all VC papers, be aware that some older types of cold-light tubes may normally require more yellow filtration. Also, note that exposure times depend upon which filter is in place. For example : if 8 sec. is correct for filters number 0, 1 and 2 ; then filter 3 will require 9 sec. and filters 4 and 5 : 27 sec.

Development

Process in any good paper developer at 20°C (68°F) for 1,5 to 2 min. with continuous agitation. BERGGER « Ecco » and BER-98 developers works 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 : 45 cc of 28% acetic acid in 1 litre of water. Treatment time : 15 sec. or 20 to 30 seconds if water rinse.

Fixing (maximum time : 10 minutes)

Treat in a conventional sodium thiosulfate fixer for a minimum of 5 min. at 20°C (68°C). 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 bath « second bath ». With ammonium thiosulfate (« rapid ») fixers, treat for 30 to 45 seconds only, then give a thorough pre-washed 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

CB ART responds well to bleaching and toning. To increase the impression of warmth, you may wish to use a toner such as Kodak Brown toner or a sepia toner

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 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

PRESTIGE VARIABLE CM may be toned, retouched, spotted and mounted using normal methods

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