

Doming as a Business Opportunity

Start your own business from home or bolt on to an existing business. For a low outlay, start producing high quality personalised cufflinks, tie slides, corporate jewellery, findings, badges, key fobs, bottle openers, fridge magnets and lots more!

No costly plate/set-up charges as the process makes use of your existing computer, inkjet printer and our hard/software, resins and a digital cutter with an optical eye (e.g. silhouette cameo).

Import identical or different images, onto your work page, in any shape or size. Then simply print via your inkjet printer and cut the number of labels required for doming using the silhouette cameo or equivalent.

With this process, there are no set up charges, no noise or mess. All you need is a small desk space to start operating your own 'gift production factory'!

As the process is safe and simple, even teenagers can take part and put their computer knowledge to good use. This makes the whole process educational and fun too!

Make high quality business gifts for minimal outlay and maximum return.

Promotional products are one of the most effective marketing tools around. Used by a host of businesses, clubs, societies, charities, schools and universities to promote a brand, event, product or service, they can be useful or decorative. Most of all, they are highly sought after.

In just five easy steps, CrystalDrop Technology enables you to design and make a variety of high-quality promotional gift items. Using this simple modern digital system, you can reproduce high quality logos onto cufflinks, tie slides, lapel badges, bottle openers, key fobs, lighters, mobile phones, computer cases and many more.

The CrystalDrop Professional Package enables you to:-

- *Build a home-based business quickly and simply
- *Benefit from high profit margins and minimal set-up costs
- *Turn a low cost product into an expensive looking gift item
- *Produce promotional products in bulk or a one-off gift item
- *Maximise sales revenues with full colour production capability
- *Ensure product quality with superior scratch-resistant finish
- *Save time & costs by producing multiple jobs at the same time
- *Offer a next-day service to attract and retain potential clients
- *Boost your income with no fuss, no mess and no awkward machinery

You can now enjoy an attractive residual income in no time - with no costly plate or set-up charges, low production costs, little wastage and a high profit margin. All you need is basic computer skills and the CrystalDrop Technology start-to-finish doming kit. The modern digital printing process takes up minimal desk space with no fuss and no awkward machinery.

Several potential businesses in one

CrystalDrop Technology offers the potential for you to branch out into other specialist print media areas. Not just a tool to create promotional gifts, this modern digital system presents a unique opportunity to produce many other items for no additional capital outlay.

For example, you can also use the Silhouette Cameo cutting system to create stunning greeting cards (ideal for those interested in arts and crafts).

With the Silhouette Cameo, you can also cut out self-adhesive vinyl for making all manner of signs (eg. For shop windows, point of sale, signs for vehicles as well as safety signs).

Doming is not just restricted to promotional gift items, you can for example also dome directly onto metal, name badges, cut out vinyl lettering, logos as well as 3D 'transfers' for garments! As you can see, in return for a modest investment, you have great potential to market an even wider range of products and services.

Questions & Answers

How long will my resin last?

Our resin is freshly packed and should generally last many months if unopened and kept at normal room temperature.

What types of resins do you supply?

We supply mainly 'Epoxy Resin' and 'Polyurethane Resin' as two part (resin on one side and hardener on the adjoining side). The Epoxy resin ratio is 1:1 and for Polyurethane, it is 2:1. You must therefore use the correct plunger in the application gun for the appropriate resin (Please see images below).

If I only use part of the resin, can I keep the rest for later use?

Yes, providing you carefully wipe the stopper and lock it firmly back into place so no air can get inside the resin cartridge. Also, you MUST use a fresh nozzle as the old nozzle would have hardened.

How many decals can I dome with one 50ml resin cartridge?

We recently domed 132 decals with just one 50ml epoxy resin cartridge. We domed different shapes and sizes consisting of: 78 of x 23mm x 12mm, 32 x 16mm diameter and 22 x 25mm diameter, which works out to about just 4.5p per dome, or thereabout.

What is the difference between Epoxy and Polyurethane Resin?

Epoxy resin is mainly used for promotional products as they are not subject to UV light (sunlight) constantly all day. Also, epoxy resin is not moisture sensitive - this means you will not have problems with unwanted bubbles settling (and hardening) in your domes. This also means, that you resin cartridge will have a much longer shelf life if stored at normal room temperature of about 18 degrees centigrade.

Epoxy resin cannot be used for permanent outdoor use (eg car badges) and constant UV light from the sun will yellow the clear dome over a period of time. In such cases, you must use polyurethane resin which will withstand UV light to a greater degree. However, whilst the polyurethane resin may withstand outdoor UV light, your normal print media and inks will not! To give outdoor longevity, your printed items, to be domed, must be printed using a solvent based printer onto self-adhesive vinyl (and not onto normal self-adhesive print media as used for producing promotional products). Because of the expense of solvent based printers, very few people tend to use polyurethane resin.

It may also interest you to know that you can actually apply doming resin directly onto cutout self-adhesive vinyl letters and logos! As you will not be printing on vinyl as such, you can apply polyurethane resin and these would then become suitable for outdoor use.

Another drawback of polyurethane resin is that it attracts moisture and the shelf life is therefore much shorter than that of epoxy resin. Sometimes, the moisture will create tiny bubbles, which may disappear briefly once you have used a 'bubble removing gun' (an optional extra) - but these bubbles may reappear and settle for good when the domes have cured and hardened, due to higher moisture levels in the air. This issue become more prevalent in the summer and in hotter countries where moisture levels can be high.

It is for these reasons why we strongly recommend our epoxy resin, where possible.

How long does it take for the resin to cure (harden)?

At temperature of about 22 degrees centigrade, the resin will normally take between 20-24 hours to fully cure according to the manufacturers guidelines. However, we have found that it can cure within 12 hours or so at normal room temperature.

Can I print onto any type of print media?

No, you have to print onto our special quality non-porous print media, with permanent adhesive. Our print media has a backing sheet so there is no need to use any type of carrier sheet when cutting shapes out using one of our cutters with 'optical eye' (see more about this later).

You cannot apply resin to normal paper types of labels as the resin will 'sink' into the paper (as opposed to 'floating' on our non-porous print media). This will result in producing an almost 'flat dome' rather than one that stands proud, as it should do.

Do you supply everything for doming under one roof?

Yes we do! We supply resins, print media, cutters with optical eye, applications hand guns, bubble removing guns, stacker trays and a good choice of cufflinks, tie slides, badges, bottle openers, key fobs etc. They are designed to accept your domes easily.

Can I use any cutter/plotter for cutting our decals?

You can as long as it has 'optical eye' for detecting registration marks. Our Silhouette Cameo and Silhouette Portrait cutters some with 'optical eye' as standard.

With doming, you need to import images from your files into the cutter's very own software. You need to select registration marks, create cut lines on top of your designs (using simple cutline tools within the software). For each shape or size, you only need to do this once and you can then copy and paste as many times as you like depending on the number of domes you wish to produce.

Once this has been achieved, you simply send it to print using your own inkjet printer. Print at the highest quality, selecting 'glossy vinyl media' (or something to this effect) for optimum results.