

PROCESSING B&W SHEET FILM

1. BE PREPARED

- Figure out your developing time and temperature based on three things: type of film, type of developer, and how much expansion or contraction you need.
- Make sure that your fixer is not exhausted, and prepare any other chemicals you will need.
- Set up 4 small (5x7) trays in the following order: Water, Developer, Water, Fixer. Set your timer to the developing time.
- Have a pair of thin disposable gloves ready (in your pocket or on the counter).
- Make sure your hands are *completely dry* for the next step.

2. PRE-WASH

- In complete darkness, remove your film from the box and count the sheets.
- Fan them out like cards, emulsion side up.
- Grab the first sheet by the corner and place it in the water. Press it down.
- With the wet hand, approach the fanned out film and touch the corner of the next sheet. Taking care not to wet the other sheets, place the second sheet in the water. Press down.
- Repeat with the rest of the stack.
- If two of the sheets stick together, *don't try to peel them apart*. Just put them in the water together and then separate them underwater, very very slowly.
- Put the rubber gloves on.
- Agitate the sheets for approximately 1 min by shuffling slowly from bottom to top, while counting. You should always have the correct number of sheets.

3. DEVELOP

- Transfer the entire stack to the developer by holding two opposite corners of the stack.
- Start the timer and begin shuffling. After cycling through once, turn the sheets (or tray) 90 degrees every time you finish a cycle.
- 15 seconds before your time is up, remove the stack and transfer it to the next tray.

4. STOP

- Shuffle once in the water (or stop bath) tray. Transfer to the fixer.

5. FIX

- Shuffle the same way for 5 min. Turn the lights on when your time runs out.

6. RINSE

- Shuffle once through clean water.

7. ELIMINATE THE HYPO

- Shuffle through a tray of hypo eliminator for 5 min.

8. FINAL WASH

- Place sheets in the plastic sheet film washer. 10 min.

9. WETTING AGENT

- Add the sheets, one by one, to a clean tray of photo flo. Carry the tray to the dryer.

10. DRY

- Do not squeegee the sheets. Use a clothespin to hang each sheet by the very corner.