

# Stampin' Up!® Firm Foam Stampin' Pads



Check out this great overview video by Stampin' Up!:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p-JsJzQNRWY>

## Firm Foam Pad Features and Benefits:

- Provide better ink coverage for your stamps.
- Produces flawless images with lighter touch inking and stamping.
- Pad stays juicier for longer resulting in better ink pad longevity.
- Crisply printed, glossy label on the top of the pad that is easier to read and that will not fade or chip.
- Colored name labels available in all four languages (English, Spanish, French, and German). Just choose your language, peel the desired label off the back, and add it to the front of the pad for easy identification!
- Same patented flip-top case design that stores the inking surface upside down, so the pad surface stays moist.
- Available in all colors, including our exclusive In Colors.
- The Firm Foam surface is flat, and stays flat. The foam material allows the surface to spring back into shape, avoiding the compression that can leave a felt/linen pad with a wavy or dented surface over time.
- The Firm Foam material will not leave a "cross-hatch" impression on inked images as sometimes occurs with felt/linen pads. However, because the new pad uses a foam base material, the stamp image can momentarily leave an imprint of a lesser inked area on the pad, which may noticeably transfer to a second stamped image. By tapping your stamp on different areas of the pad as you ink it, or waiting momentarily for the ink to rise back to the top, you can easily avoid this situation.
- The firm foam material is soft and has a nice "bounce" to it, making it easier to ink up all areas of an image evenly.
- The ink lay-down (how the ink is absorbed into the card stock) is even, not blotchy, and dries quickly. It has an increased opacity and stamps solid images beautifully.

**Please note:** Five ink colors have undergone formula changes to improve functionality and color stability with the new firm foam pads. These colors are:

## Basic Black, Basic Gray, Marina Mist, Perfect Plum, Tempting Turquoise

All five colors of the reformulated inks have been fully tested and approved. Using the reformulated ink in the old Stampin' Pads is fine, but you will **NOT** want to use the old ink formula in the new firm foam pads for these five reformulated colors. Refills purchased after June 1, 2012, will contain the new formulated ink.

# New Firm Foam Pads FAQs

**Q: Why did we switch from felt pads to firm foam pads?**

A: We have worked very hard to improve the functionality of our Classic Stampin' Pads. The firm foam allows for better ink coverage; plus it stays juicier and lasts longer.

**Q: Do old Classic Stampin' Ink Refills work with the new firm foam pads?**

A: Yes, with the exception of Basic Black, Basic Gray, Marina Mist, Perfect Plum, and Tempting Turquoise, which have been reformulated to work with the new foam pad material. Do not use old ink refills in these five colors of firm foam pads.

**Q: Before I use my firm foam pad, do I need to tap it and massage the ink around?**

A: No. The firm foam pads are ready for use immediately. The best inking technique with the firm foam pad is light tapping.

**Q: My pad is too wet. What should I do?**

A: We suggest using a paper towel to remove some of the ink. The amount of ink in each pad is carefully monitored in production to ensure a two-year shelf life.

**Q: The firm foam on my lighter color pads looks blotchy. Is this normal?**

A: Yes. The blotchiness is caused by the characteristics of the pad material. It does not affect the stamped image.

**Q: When I first stamp with certain colors, my images seem a lot darker. Why is this happening?**

A: When stamping with your old pads, you had to work hard to get even ink coverage on your stamp. With the new firm foam pad, the stamp gets a lot more ink on it so when you stamp, your image will appear darker. Once your stamped image dries, the color will look normal.

**Q: When I compare the firm foam pads to my felt pads, some of the colors don't seem to match. Why is this?**

A: The firm foam and felt will not match exactly. Ink reacts differently to different materials. We have quality checked each ink color to ensure that the stamped ink color is true.

**Q: What is shelf life of the firm foam pads? How long will the pad last before I need to re-ink it?**

A: Shelf life is two years from the manufactured date, which means if you do not use the pad for two years, it should remain well saturated. If you use the pad frequently, the pad may need to be re-inked before the two years.

**Q: What is the best way to remove the color labels from the bottom of the ink pad?**

A: Start at the right bottom corner (just above the barcode) and *slowly* peel the corner up by removing both layers.

**Q: Which end of the case do you apply the label to?**

A: The label goes on the end where you open the case, on the top half of the case.

**Q: If the ink pad becomes saturated with ink or liquid, will it cause the label to fall off?**

A: No, the label should not be affected. However, like most labels, if you pick at it or try and remove it, it may start to peel.

**Q: Will the ink color collections include the newly formulated five colors (Basic Black, Basic Gray, Marina Mist, Perfect Plum, Tempting Turquoise)?**

A: Yes, each affected color collection will include the new ink color formulas for these five colors.

**Q: Will Stampin' Spots\* use the new firm foam pad?**

A: No. Stampin' Spots will remain the same.

**Q: Can I use the reformulated ink with my Stampin' Spots?**

A: Yes.

\* Stampin' Spots are now only available in the Getting Started Color Assortment.

**Illustration of use of standard ink refill versus the five newly reformulated refill colors, with respect to old felt/linen style pads and new Firm Foam pads:**

- Daffodil Delight (not a reformulated color) refill works on both old and new firm foam pads, as well as Stampin' Spots.
- Basic Black in the *newly reformulated* color refill can be used on old and new pads, and Stampin' Spots.
- Basic Black in the old formulation should NOT be used on the new firm foam pads. It can still be used on the older felt/linen style pads, which includes the Stampin' Spots.