

INK COMPARISON CHART

	WATER-BASED INKS				OIL-BASED INKS		
Name, Catalog page number	Holbien Paste Pigments (coming 2018) page 15	Bokuju (sumi) page 16	Tosai's Pigment Set (gouache) page 16	Akua Liquid Pigment page 16	Akua Intaglio Ink page 17	Caligo Safe Wash Relief Ink page 18	Gamblin Relief Ink page 19
Ingredients	pure pigments in water with a dispersant and wetting agent. No fillers or binders	vegetable oil soot	lightfast pigments, gum arabic. No opaquing agent	lightfast pigments, water and gum base	lightfast pigments, soy oil base	lightfast pigments, linseed oil, emulsifier and <1% dryer	lightfast pigments, linseed oil, small amount of dryer in some
Recommended Printmaking Uses	Moku Hanga,* can be added to other water-based inks to increase color intensity	Moku Hanga*	Moku Hanga*	Moku Hanga,* Monotype. Thicken for Woodcut, Linocut. Use to tint Akua Intaglio	Intaglio, Monotype, Woodcut, Linocut, Colograph	Woodcut, Linocut, Monotype	Woodcut, Linocut, Monotype
Characteristics	rich, intense, matte colors. Add water to lighten and make more transparent, black Holbein Paste Pigment or Bokuju to darken. runny non-reversible once dry; store in air-tight containers	rich, matte black add water to lighten to shades of gray and for more transparency very runny water soluble (dissolves easily in water)	rich, matte colors highly pigmented thick consistency add water to thin and for more transparency water soluble	rich, matte colors highly pigmented add Extender for more transparency runny, but thicker than Holbein Paste Pigments or Bokuju roll up thin layers or apply with brushes or applicators long working time water soluble	rich, matte colors highly pigmented add Akua Transparent Base for more transparency buttery consistency roll up thick layers thick layers may never dry, especially on hard surfaced papers	rich, semi-gloss colors highly pigmented finely ground pigments add Caligo Extender for more transparency thin with Caligo Oil thick consistency can mix with other oil-based ink but soap & water clean up may be lost contains an emulsifier that attracts water	rich, semi-gloss colors highly pigmented finely ground pigments add Gamblin Transparent Base for more transparency thin with 000# Burnt Plate oil thick, buttery consistency archival
Typical Drying Time	fast	fast	fast	normal (2-6 days)	very slow, dries by absorption instead of evaporation	normal (2-6 days). Cobalt dryer can be added	normal (2-6 days). Cobalt dryer can be added
Paper Handling	print on paper from damp pack	print on paper from damp pack (not too wet).	print on paper from damp pack	Prints well on dry paper print on paper from damp pack for Moku Hanga	Print on dry or damp paper use absorbent, unsized papers like Arches 88 (page 24)	Print on dry, damp or wet paper	Print on dry, damp or wet paper
Clean Up	soap and water	soap and water	soap and water	soap and water	dry rag followed by soap, then water	dry rag followed by soap, then water	mineral spirits (see Gamsol, page 29)

*Japanese style of woodblock printmaking. Water-based ink or paint is spread across the block with stiff brushes.