

Minimum shelf life of our printing inks and coatings

With regard to the shelf life of our printing inks and coatings, the following specifications apply:

Sheet-fed offset process inks (conventional)	36 months *
Sheet-fed offset specialty inks (HKS [®] /PANTONE [®])	36 months *
Metal decoration offset process inks (conventional)	36 months
Metal decoration offset specialty inks (HKS [®] /PANTONE [®])	36 months *
Web offset coldset inks	12 months
Web offset heatset inks	12 months
Metallic lustre/bronze inks	6 months
Fountain solution concentrates	12 months
Water-based coatings	12 months *
Oil-based varnishes	24 months
UV inks	18 months
UV lacquers	12 months

Prerequisite for compliance with these specifications is that the products are stored under proper conditions in their original, unopened containers and at temperatures between +5°C and +30°C.

* This product category also includes a number of special products that have a shorter shelf life. The shelf life of these products you can find at the technical data sheet.

Due to the history of material master data creation with different customer requirements, unfortunately there are various shelf life information on different product labels (e.g. production date, direct shelf life date, etc.).

The specific shelf life stated at the label is not equal to the maximum date of usability of the contained product. That means, even after the expiration of the shelf live date, from the technical point of view the product is usually still usable without problems. A longer expiration of the shelf life can lead to a degradation of the rheological and printing properties of oxidative drying standard offset inks and low migration and low odour inks (e.g. MGA Natura, MGA CORONA), depending on the storage container. The metallic effect and printability of inks based on brass or aluminium pigments (metallic inks) may decrease with longer storage times. Therefore we can't give a guaranty for a faultless result. The fastness properties of the dried ink film and the drying behavior of the ink are not affected. With proper storage conditions of unopened containers, the expiration of the shelf life has no influence on the migration poverty of low migration inks.

Please note, we store retain samples of our production batches for a period of 3 years. In case of using of inks after expiring the shelf life we recommend to store own retain samples for your own safety.

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 Technical Service Lab Sheetfed & UV