Hand printing – Intaglio

How the Intaglio Printing Method is produced –

1. First off the artist has to cut depressions into a printing plate (normally copper or zinc). This is where the ink is placed to transfer it onto paper.

2. The plate is then covered in ink.

3. The excess ink is then wiped of the surface but the ink is left in the grooves.

4. A material such as paper is then placed over the printing plate and compressed, using a heavy roller or a printing press.

5. The paper is then removed to reveal the transferred ink showing the word or pattern on the paper.

Advantages and disadvantages

Advantages of intaglio –

- An advantage of intaglio printing is that it can be useful in various sections of the market so it’s open to a wide audience without a specific target market so therefore there are markers such as printmaking, jewellery, burial mounds and etc.
- Another advantage of intaglio is that it can be used for almost anything that the customer particularly has an interest in. it can be used for various businesses as well as for personal use.

Disadvantages of Intaglio –

- A disadvantage of intaglio is that it can be slow and a long process which means that there would be a lack in time efficiency which means a lot of important and beneficial time would be lost.
The cost is another disadvantage of this process. The Materials would cost a substantial amount of money therefore this creates cost efficiency as the materials are so expensive.

TOLPUTT, LOUISE, ERIKA. (2012), Techniques and Technology, Slide share Presentation (online), Slide 3.

**Skills and Knowledge for Intaglio Printing**

The skills required for a printing process such as intaglio printing would be that you are a kinaesthetic person which means you like practical, more hands on, artistic work. This type of printing will require the artist to have a steady hand so they do not make mistakes which are unable to erase.

**Costs and equipment**

**AWT Plastic Spreaders** - These plastic spreader/scrapers are used to block out screens and apply decals. They can also be used for inking intaglio or collograph plates. Cost $1.49 - $2.55

**Burins (set of 6)** - For cutting woodcuts and metal engravings. Comfortable wooden handles. Tempered steel graver has a specialized cutting end. Set of 6. Length, 4-3/4". Cost $54.76

**Deburring Tool** - Designed for deburring and bevelling the edges of copper and zinc etching plates, this Deburring Tool saves you lots of time and effort in the printmaking studio. It features a specially designed swivelling head mounted to a sturdy steel handle for years of reliable service. Cost $6.43
**Double-ended steel Burnisher** - This tool is 7” long, and has one curved end, and one needle point.
Cost $9.74

**EC Lyons Mezzotint Rockers** - Rock these finely serrated tools over the plate, texturing the surface. Then progressively burnish out the light tones to produce the infinitely subtle beauty of the mezzotint print.
Cost $117.73 - $164.80

**Etching/Dry-point Needles and Scribes** - Capable of producing extremely sensitive lines, these etching needles and scribes taper to fine points and are intended for use on grounded plates. They can be sharpened if needed or goes blunt.
Cost $6.75 - $17.33

**Intaglio Burnisher** - Highly polished, curved finishing tool fits in hand with ease. At 6-3/4” (17 cm) long it's perfect for intricate work, allowing the user to manipulate within delicate areas.
Cost $8.47

**Intaglio Etching Sets** - Every tool needed to create amazing etchings is here! Comes in a 4 Piece Roulette Set or a 6 Piece Roulette Set.
Cost $52.95 – $57.62
**Intaglio Multi Liners** - Save time and build up tone with these Intaglio multiple line tools. Each tool produces a series of lines with one stroke.

Cost $34.71

**Intaglio Scraper/Burnisher** - Use a burnisher in conjunction with a scraper to remove unwanted lines on a plate, or to form tones in aquatint or mezzotint. This popular and convenient double-ended tool puts a scraper on one end and a burnisher on the other. 7" long, one curved end.

Cost $19.59

**Intaglio Small Curved Burnisher** - This small scraper, measuring 5-3/4" in length, has a 4" wooden handle and a 1-3/4" curved tip.

Cost $8.40

**Intaglio Small Scraper** - This small intaglio scraper, measuring approximately 5-3/4", has a 4" lacquered wooden handle and a 1-3/4" blade.

Cost $6.84

**Irregular Egg Roulette Tool** - Create an intriguing, irregular pebble effect on your plates with this Roulette Tool. With a curved shaft and a wood handle, it measures 5¼" long.

Cost $48.35
**Sharpening Stones** - Use these sharpening stones for maintaining a mirror-honed edge on your tools.
Cost $15.24 - $26.47

**Steel Burnisher with Wooden Handle** - For use with scraper to remove unwanted lines on a plate, or to form tones in aquatint or mezzotint.
Cost $8.91

**Triangular Mini Scraper** - This scraper has a triangular shape designed for printmakers. The three-sided sharp edges are used for scraping or slicing off the plate surface during image-making or corrections. This scraper is made of steel, with a wood handle.
Cost $8.84

**Triangular Scraper** - Removes burrs from engraved metal plates. Rubbing a few strokes with scraper will not damage plates.
Cost $8.94 - $9.06

**ZAcryl Vertical Etching Tank** - ZAcryl's vertical etching tank is a superior alternative to a conventional acid tray. It takes up significantly less space than a bath-style tray. The tank accommodates any etchant but was designed to promote the use of ferric chloride.
Cost $198.99
Wear appropriate Clothing which could be –

**Lab Coat** – Prevent Ink from staining or ruining your clothes. Or reaching skin which could cause harm.

**Rubber Gloves or Specialized Gloves** – Prevent ink from getting on your hands. Also used to prevent irritations from the substances.

**Work Gloves** – could be used for protection when using press or etching tools. Reduce the chance of injuring your fingers.

**Safety Glasses** – reduce the risk of ink from going in eyes or other substances causing serious injuries such infections of even Blindness.