

# LegacyPro EcoWash

## Archival Print Washer

*Recommended by planet Earth*

### Included with your washer:

Carefully remove the LegacyPro EcoWash from its carton. Open the top of the shipping carton and remove the top sponge pad. **Do not lift the unit by the intake or outlet chambers.** Ease the washer out of the carton and place it at a convenient height on a flat, level surface to do the small assembly required. Take an inventory of what you have received, and check it against the following list:

1. One LegacyPro EcoWash print washer
2. One set of five low dividers\* (notches on top)
3. One set of six high dividers\* (no notches)
4. One ten-foot (approx.) length of 3/8" (ID) hose. This hose will be used for the inlet, outlet and drains, by cutting the different lengths necessary.
5. Two 1/2" hose clamps
6. Two threaded elbow fittings.
7. Two threaded straight fitting
8. One roll of Teflon tape to wrap threads of fittings.
9. One Wand. A rubber tipped plastic rod for fishing smaller prints out of the washer.
10. One garden hose fitting.

\*Dividers for 16x20 and 20x24 washers are shipped in a separate box from the washer.

### Caring for your EcoWash:

**Do not** use alcohol-based cleaners like Windex. Use a mild dish washing soap or a cleaner made specifically for acrylics. You can remove the dividers and clean the washer if necessary. Simple green works well. A very dilute solution of bleach will help remove fixer stains.

### Assemble the washer:

*Please reference the EcoWash assembly diagram while reading these instructions.*

*All of the fittings should be installed finger tight. Installing the fittings too tight may damage the threads in the washer. Wrap all of the threaded fittings with Teflon tape before installing them into the washer.*

A. Install one of the elbow fittings into the pre-threaded hole at the top, left, front, this is the inlet where the water will enter.

B. From the 10' length of hose, measure enough hose to run from the inlet to your water source (faucet). Cut the hose. Insert one end in the elbow fitting you just installed and the other end into the garden hose fitting. Attach the garden hose fitting to the water source.

C. Install a straight threaded fitting into the outlet, located at the back, top, and center of the washer. This is the outlet where water will exit the washer **during use**. The hose should be going down and the fitting installed from underneath and flush/level with the channel.

D. From the remaining 10' length of hose, measure and cut enough hose to reach from the outlet fitting to a drain. Install the hose onto the straight fitting. Be sure the drain is below the washer, so the water will drain out properly.

E. Install the remaining elbow fitting into the threaded hole located at the bottom, left and center of the washer. This is for the main drain tube and only needs used when emptying all the water from the washer Cut hose to an appropriate length and attach and close a hose clamp.

F. Install the remaining straight threaded fitting into the outlet located at the side, top, and left of the washer for the inlet channel drain. This is used only when draining the print washer and is only for draining the inlet channel without needing to lift and dump the unit. Cut hose to an appropriate length and attach and close a hose clamp.

## Preparing to fill the washer:

### **Do not fill or drain the washer without removing the dividers.**

1. Place the washer on a flat level surface that is sturdy enough to hold the weight of the unit. The washer can be placed in or out of the sink. An 8.5x11 washer, when full of water, weighs approx. 60lbs, 11x14 washer ~110lbs, 16x20 ~190lbs and 20x24 ~225lbs.
2. Make sure the washer is perfectly level.
3. Remove the protective paper from the high and low dividers.
4. Before filling the washer **make sure both clamps are closed on drain and the inlet drain hoses.\***
5. Fill the washer.
6. After the washer is full, place the high dividers in the EcoWash. Starting with the first slot, insert the high divider. Then every other slot will get a high divider ending with the last slot. Be sure the high dividers fit into the lifted pegs at the bottom of the washer. (The high dividers are lifted above the bottom of the washer allowing the water to flow under them during operation).
7. Place the low dividers (notches up) in the EcoWash. The low dividers fit into the grooves at the bottom of the washer forming a seal. This forces the water to go up and over the low dividers. It is important to remove the dividers when filling or draining the washer because of this seal.

***Filling the washer with the dividers installed can cause the dividers to bow or warp. Dividers are checked for fidelity, before they are packaged. Warped dividers are not covered by warranty.***

## Efficient operation of the EcoWash:

After filling the washer, measure the flow rate and adjust the water flow according to the following chart.

EcoWash	Flow in ounces per minute	Flow in milliliters per minute
8½ x 11	20 oz	600 ml
11 x 14	30 oz	890 ml
16 x 20	36 oz	1,066 ml
20 x 24	42 oz	1,243 ml

Measuring the flow rate: Using a beaker, measure the water flowing out of the outflow hose. Adjust the water flow according to the chart. If the flow is too high the washer may backup and start to overflow. If the flow is too low, it will take longer to wash your prints.

## Loading Prints into your washer:

*It is highly recommended to pre-rinse your prints in water, before loading them into the washer. This rinse will eliminate 80%+ of the fixer from the print. The remaining fixer is the stubborn bit and is removed while the print is soaking in the washer.*

Load the prints by **sliding them in the chambers, in sequence, beginning with the chamber nearest the inlet.** The most efficient procedure to follow is to always load new prints downstream (L to R, if inlet on left) - first in, first out.

To prevent damage to the print surface, use care in loading the prints into the washer. *Prints sticking to the side of the dividers does not impair washing.* Water passes through both sides of the print. If the sticking concerns you, use the wand to dislodge the prints. You can also use the wand to dislodge air bubbles that may form and to retrieve smaller prints that have settled to the bottom.

## Washing times:

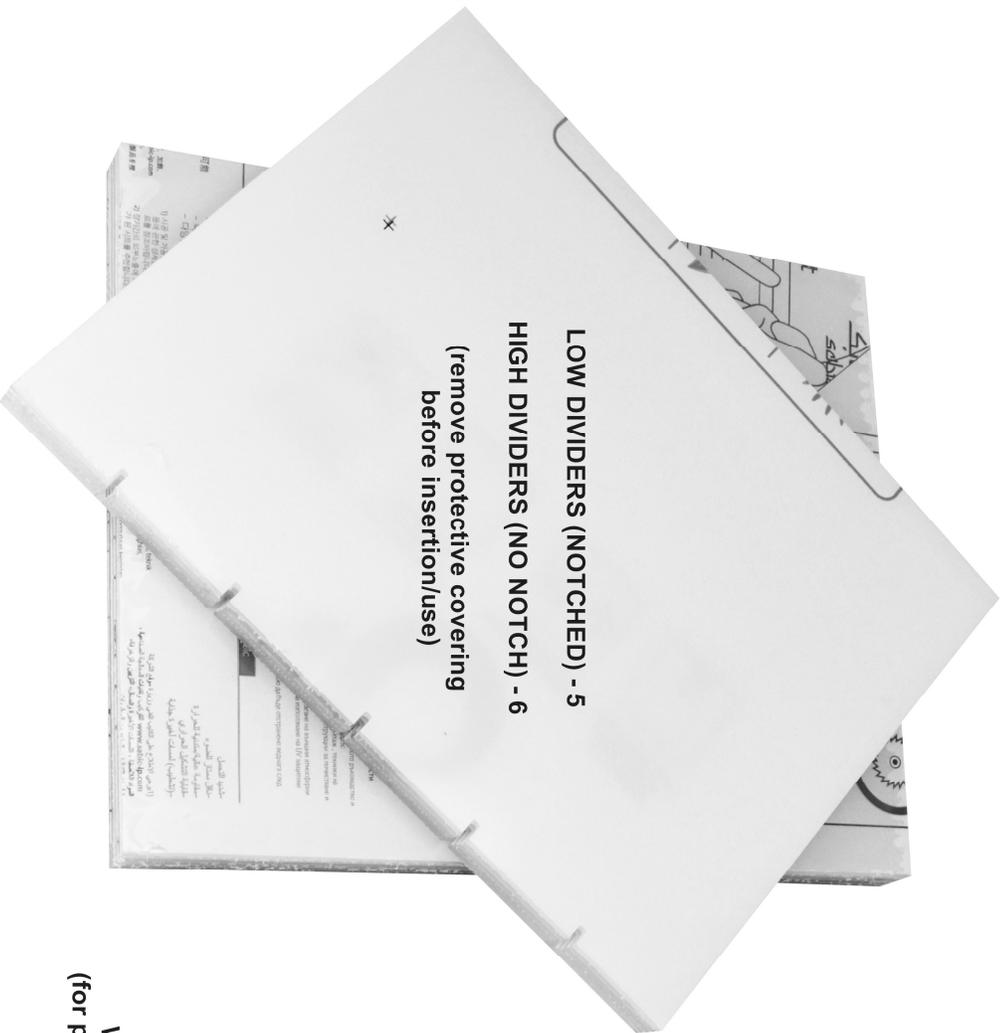
While the print is soaking, fresh water replaces the fixer particles trapped in the fibers of the base material. This action is known as diffusion. LegacyPro recommends a 45-minute wash time for prints that are pre-rinsed in water before putting them into the EcoWash. If you are using a washing aid (e.g. Perma wash), consult the manufacturers' recommended washing times - we recommend doubling their recommended time. If they recommend 15 minutes, wash for 30 minutes. When striving for archival results, err on the conservative side.

## Test your wash times:

Don't take anyone's recommendations for wash times as your wash times... including ours. All washing procedures, including ones using the EcoWash, should be validated as archival by running a Residual Hypo Test. These tests will factor into your washing time formula all the variables like water hardness or softness and your own pre-wash procedures. Residual Hypo Test Kits can be found at your favorite photographic retailer or made from scratch, following instructions from *The Darkroom Cookbook* by Steve Anshell.

*LegacyPro EcoWash print washers are made and distributed by Freestyle Photo and Imaging Supplies, in Los Angeles, CA.*

*For questions, concerns, or replacement parts, please contact your retailer or Freestyle, directly, at [info@freestylephoto.biz](mailto:info@freestylephoto.biz) or 1-800-292-6137.*



**LOW DIVIDERS (NOTCHED) - 5**  
**HIGH DIVIDERS (NO NOTCH) - 6**  
(remove protective covering  
before insertion/use)

**WAND - 1**  
(for print retrieval)



**TEFLON TAPE - 1**



**ELBOW FITTINGS - 2**



**STRAIGHT FITTINGS - 2**



**HOSE CLAMPS - 2**



**HOSE ATTACHMENT - 1**



**HOSE - 1**  
(cut to size)



