

Large Format Film Development Procedures

When developing film in trays procedures are different. Times are not consistent with development in tanks, the film, although it may have the same name, is a totally different emulsion than 35mm or roll film.

These procedures are designed for developing 4X5 or larger film in stainless steel baskets in trays, or one sheet at a time in a tray.

1. Place holders in a position where they will be easily found in the dark.
2. Place the basket where it is easily located in the dark.
3. Fill the trays with one (1) liter of each of the following solutions.
 - Water
 - D-76 1+1 (500 ml D-76 + 500 ml water) or undiluted for some films
 - Water (for stop bath)
 - Fixer
4. The trays should be separated from the dry area where the film and basket are located.

TURN OFF THE LIGHTS NOW

5. Place one sheet of film emulsion up in each section of the basket. Drop, do not slide the film in as there is a danger of it sliding beneath under one of the wires.
6. Place the basket in the pre-soak and use a knuckle to push the film under the water.
7. Agitate the film in the pre-soak for 3 minutes by lifting alternate corners of the tray.
8. Lift the basket from the pre-soak and tilt it so the film may drain for 15 - 20 seconds.
9. Place the basket in the developer, start the timer and lift alternate corners of the tray to agitate it. After 30 seconds, let the tray rest in the sink, and use your knuckle to once again push the film below the surface of the developer.
10. At the end of the development time suggested by the chart lift the tray from the developer and tilt it to drain.
11. Place the basket and film in the water stop bath and agitate constantly for one (1) minute.
12. Lift the basket from the stop and place it in the fixer with constant agitation. The lights may be turned on after 15 seconds. Open the door.
13. Agitate constantly in the fixer for at least 7 minutes. If purple or pink color is still evident continue to fix until it is minimal. A little of this will be removed in the wash, but not much.
14. When fix is complete, lift the basket, drain the film for 30 seconds and, using a paper towel to catch drip, carry the basket to the white sink room.
Remove the film from the basket and place emulsion up in the wash tray.

NOTE: During Friday/Saturday lab washing is done in the developing room by placing the basket into the stop tray and running water into one corner.

Wash for 10 minutes. DURING THIS TIME - CLEAN UP YOUR ROOM TURN IT OVER TO THE NEXT STUDENT IN LINE.

15. Remove film from the wash into a tray and carry to dryer area and place the film in the LFN. Agitate for 1 - 1 ½ minutes.
16. Turn off the dryer and hang film by one corner.
17. After 5 minutes, turn off dryer and use a tissue to absorb the water droplet on the lower corner of the film. Don't forget to turn the dryer back on.

SUGGESTED times for development are on the attached sheet.