

# A Visual Guide to T-shirt Fabric Blends

T-shirt blends refer to the combination of different fabric composition types intertwined to create the perfect soft t-shirt. This can include polyester, cotton, and rayon. Learn how you can achieve great print results!

Real Thread

## How Does Each Fabric in a Blend Play a Role?

<b>POLYESTER</b>	Retains the original shape and flexibility of the t-shirt.
<b>COTTON</b>	Contributes to a comfortable and durable t-shirt.
<b>RAYON</b>	Creates a unique smoothness and provides a slimming look.

## How Do You Know if a Shirt is a Blend?

Check the tags on the inside of the neck. It should state the type of shirt it is by listing out the fabric composition. If you decide to remove the manufacturer tag (left) and re-label with your own custom tag (right) we recommend including the fabric composition.

The exact blend percentages can vary depending on the manufacturer blank.

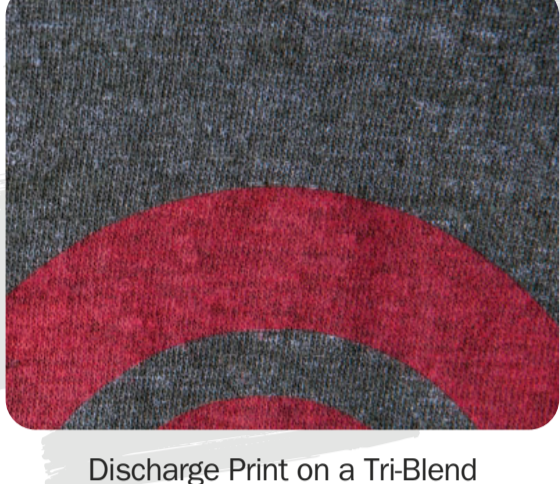


## Can You Print on Blends?

Yes, you can print on tri-blend and poly/cotton blend t-shirts! However, the polyester color in the shirt's fabric composition dictates the results you can expect. Since polyester is a synthetic fiber, you can't "technically" remove the color from the fiber.

If the polyester is white, you're likely to achieve a bright print. If it's black, you're likely to achieve a more vintage print since the color of the polyester is dark. If you want a bright print, but the polyester is dark, there are other ink options to still achieve this result.

### BLACK POLYESTER



Discharge Print on a Tri-Blend

### WHITE POLYESTER



Discharge Print on a Polyester/Cotton Blend

## Unique Printing Results You Can Achieve With The Same Ink

Here are four photos of the same design, on different shirts, printed with the same discharge ink. You can see the results vary based on the fabric and the color of the shirt.



### 100% COTTON WITH DISCHARGE INK

The natural fibers in this American Apparel 2001 black shirt are a light white/cream-ish color thus producing bright results. Since there's no polyester in the fabric, the cotton is able to be dyed to the color in your design.

### 50% COTTON / 50% POLYESTER WITH DISCHARGE INK

The natural and synthetic fibers in the American Apparel BB401 in heather black are both a light white/cream-ish color producing bright results. Even though there are synthetic fibers intertwined in the shirt, they are light so they don't effect the results.

### 50% COTTON / 25% POLYESTER / 25% RAYON WITH DISCHARGE INK

The dye in the natural fibers of the American Apparel TR401 in tri-black were able to be "re-dyed" to the color of choice, but the synthetic fibers of the shirt are black, creating a unique soft heathered look to the shirt.

### 50% COTTON / 25% POLYESTER / 25% RAYON WITH DISCHARGE INK

The dye in the natural fibers in the American Apparel TR401 in athletic grey were able to be "re-dyed" to the color of choice, but the synthetic fibers of the shirt are grey, creating a unique soft heathered look as the final outcome.

If a more opaque look on any of these shirts is your desired look, that can still be achieved using other avenues. Your options at creating a shirt people are going to love to wear are endless!

## Which Manufactures Offer The Most Popular Printable T-shirt Blends?

### AMERICAN APPAREL



### NEXT LEVEL APPAREL



### BELLA+CANVAS APPAREL



## What's The Value in Printing on Soft, High Quality, Custom T-Shirts?



### UNITES COMPANY CULTURE

Shirts unite the culture visually and tangibly. It gives reference for who is on the team and "who can join the team" Super soft custom shirts reinforces the value of the efforts of your employees.



### ENGAGES BRAND EVANGELIST

Shirts give those brand enthusiasts the opportunity to share the story, necessity, and service of the brand to others. This is one of the most powerful ways to proliferate word-of-mouth referrals.



### COMMUNICATES CORE VALUES

A quality shirt gives individuals a physical and lasting representation of your brand's value. Every time they wear the shirt, they are reminded of their experience and the emotional connection they have to your organization.

## Which Companies Are Using Blends to Grow Their Brand?



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