Calendaring Paper

Calendaring Paper:

If you are preparing to do a color print that requires multiple runs through the press, and careful registration will be required, then you will need to calendar your paper prior to printing.

You only need to do this if you are doing multiple color runs. You DO NOT need to do this for one color images.

Calendaring your paper means that you will be pre-stretching your paper.

As paper is run through a press under high pressure it tends to stretch. How much depends on the type of paper and the amount of pressure. In general Western styled papers stretch more than eastern. Likewise you will have more chance of the paper mis-aligning if printing color lithographs due to the amount of pressure used when printing than if you print a color relief.

You need stretch your paper before running your first color, so that the paper is already stretched and hence will not continue to stretch after your first run, resulting in your subsequent runs mis-aligning.

Calendaring paper on a LITHOGRAPHIC PRESS:

- 1- Place a clean sheet of Lexan on press bed or platten.
- 2- Place your printing paper down, in same direction as you will be printing). ***The side facing up will become smoother, making it print detail better).
- 3- Place a sheet of clean newsprint over your print paper.
- 4- Place waxed tympan on top.
- 5- Run through the press with same pressure as when printing.

Run the paper forwards through the press, then without raising the bar, run it backwards through the press again. Repeat this once more so the paper has gone through four times.

ONLY RUN ONE SHEET OF PAPER THROUGH AT A TIME. Do this for all the sheets you'll be printing.