

[3M™ Safety-Walk™ Slip-Resistant Conformable 588](#) and [3M™ Safety-Walk™ General Purpose 688](#) treads both offer the unique feature of digital inkjet printability. The guide below is a general recommendation for process steps that can be taken when handling and starting to print on 3M™ Safety-Walk™. 3M is not responsible or liable for any printer issues and/or printer head crashes or strikes. It is up to the user to identify a compatible printer and make the necessary adjustments to the printer in order to print properly as well as to not damage the printer equipment. Please consult with your local graphics printer to review necessary steps to print on Safety-Walk™ safely as well as efficiently without damage to the Safety-Walk™ or the printer itself.

#### Important Notes:

- 3M™ Safety-Walk™ Slip-Resistant Conformable 588 and 3M™ Safety-Walk™ General Purpose 688 treads are rough and raised surfaces, it is recommended that printer heads are raised a safe distance away from the Safety-Walk™ surface in order to avoid printer head crashes or strikes.
- 3M recommends utilizing a printer that is compatible with UV curable inks for faster delivery.
- 3M recommends only loading Safety-Walk™ onto the printer rollers immediately before printing and removing immediately after printing to mitigate Safety-Walk™ from curling or forming to the idler roller, thus not lying flat on the printer bed potentially resulting in a head crash.
- 3M recommends printer operators be present and diligently monitoring as the Safety-Walk™ is continually fed into the printer and look out for any edge curling or abnormal raised surfaces that may have propagated as the roll is unwound. If edge curling starts to exist it is recommended to tape or hold down edges to prevent further raising, thus mitigating a printer head crash or strike.

#### Printing Recommendations:

- Step 1: It is recommended that the printer assign a technician that is comfortable and knowledgeable about printing on raised and/or textured surfaces.
- Step 2: Open box of either 3M™ Safety-Walk™ Slip Resistant Conformable 588 and 3M™ Safety-Walk™ General Purpose 688 treads material and load properly to the respective printer. It is recommended to only load Safety-Walk™ into the printer immediately before printing and remove immediately after printing is complete. This could mitigate the Safety-Walk™ from forming to the shape of the idler roller.
- Step 3: Raise printer heads to the printer operators comfort level to ensure print heads will not crash or strike onto the Safety-Walk's™ raised and rough surface. It is recommended that print heads are raised at least 2-5 mm away from the Safety-Walk™ surface, but printer operators should still be cautious and observant to ensure print head crashes or strikes will not occur due to the presence of uneven surfaces.
- Step 4: Once printer heads are raised and at a safe distance from the Safety-Walk™ surface, start to feed the Safety-Walk™ into the printer. Ensure that the Safety-Walk™ is properly taut, and the printer vacuum is on to help prevent abnormal raising or bowing.
- Step 5: As Safety-Walk™ is being fed into the printer inspect Safety-Walk™ for any abnormalities or edge curling. If edge curling persists, tape or hold down sides to ensure the Safety-Walk™ is flat with the printer table during the printing process.
- Step 6: Determine image(s) and/or color(s) desired.
- Step 7: Print. It is recommended printer operators continually inspect and monitor the process to ensure printer head crashes or strikes will not occur.
- Step 8: Remove Safety-Walk roll immediately after printing is complete. This could mitigate the Safety-Walk™ from forming to the shape of the idler roller.

For additional information, please refer to [3M™ Safety-Walk™ Slip-Resistant Tapes and Treads Technical Data Sheet](#).

#### Commercial Solutions

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Revision A, March 2020. Please recycle.