

Guide to the DMS Darkroom

Access & Orientation

The DMS Darkroom is a specialized space requiring proper training and authorization for use.

- **Shared Community Space:** This darkroom is a shared community space. It is also used for exposing screens used in screen printing. This page is only relevant for use as an analogue photography darkroom.
- **Mandatory Sign-Off Class:** To gain access to and use the darkroom, all members *must* attend a mandatory orientation and sign-off class. This ensures safe and proper operation of equipment and handling of chemicals.
- **Check the DMS Calendar:** Keep an eye on the DMS Calendar for upcoming darkroom orientation class schedules.
- **Questions?** Reach out to the DMS Photography SIG on Talk or Discord for more information.

Equipment

The DMS Darkroom is equipped with the following for your black and white printing needs:

- **Enlargers:**
 - **Beseler 23Cii:** A versatile medium format enlarger.
 - **MX45:** A more robust enlarger, suitable for larger format negatives.
 - **Tools:** Set of contrast filters, grain focusing tools, and easels for each booth.
- **Tanks:** Plastic and metal developing tanks and reels for 135,120,110 format film
- **Trays:** Sets of trays for 4x5, 8x10, 11x16, and 16x20 prints
- **Chemistry:** Stock a standard set for film and paper development. See Consumables section for details

Consumables

Chemistry and photographic paper are available for purchase at the Square Terminals, or Paypal QR Codes.

- **Pricing:** Check pricing sheet posted on the wall.
- **Chemistry:** Kodak XTOL[film] and LegacyPro Dev[paper], Ilfo-stop bath, Ilford rapid fixer, Kodak Hypo-Clearing Agent, and Kodak Photo-flo are stocked
- **Paper:** Pearl Multigrade RC
- **Bring Your Own:** Members are also welcome to bring their own chemistry and paper, provided it is compatible with black and white photographic processes and disposed of properly.

Rules & Etiquette

To ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all users, please adhere to the following:

- **Cleanliness:** Always clean up your workspace thoroughly after each use. This includes wiping down surfaces, rinsing trays, and properly disposing of chemicals.
 - Before starting make sure to put away any dry tools from the sink before you start.
- **Chemical Disposal:** Follow all posted guidelines for chemical disposal. Never pour chemicals down the drain unless explicitly stated.
 - **DMS Chems:** Fixer **MUST** be poured into the fixer bucket. All other may be poured down the drain
 - **BYO Chems:** You **MUST** take all your spent chemistry back with you. **No BYO chemistry may be poured down the drain**
- **Ventilation:** Ensure the ventilation system is operational when working with chemistry.
- **Safe Light:** Strict darkroom protocols. As a shared space always knock when entering when the 'In use' sign is on. If exiting always ensure all light sensitive materials are covered.
- **Report Issues:** Immediately report any equipment malfunctions, chemical spills, or concerns on Talk @[Talk group handle TBD].
- **No Food or Drink:** For safety and to prevent contamination, food/drink is not allowed while working in the darkroom.

Resources

Useful information

- **Ilford Photo**
 - [Making B&W Darkroom Prints](#)
 - [Processing B&W Film](#)
 - [Making a Basic Contact Sheet](#)
- **Massive Dev Chart**