

# COMPARISON OF STAMP TYPES PRODUCED BY BJ RUBBER STAMPS

October 2013

	SELF-INKING STAMP	PRE-INKED STAMP	TRADITIONAL HAND STAMP
<b>BRANDS</b>	Plastic Units: Trodat, Shiny, Ideal and 2000+. Most are also available in a metal, heavy duty unit for industrial or heavy duty commercial applications	Xstamper and Brother	No brand names
<b>HOW THEY WORK</b>	The printing die rotates and picks up ink from a concealed ink pad to deposit it on paper	The printing die contains micro pores saturated with ink to deposit it on paper	The printing die picks up ink from a separate ink pad to deposit it on paper
<b>COST</b>	<b>Best</b> - Moderately priced	<b>Good</b> - Cost is approx 20% more than self-inking stamps	<b>Better</b> - About the same price as a self-inker when cost of the stamp pad is included
<b>VALUE</b>	<b>Best</b> - A good blend of positive features and price	<b>Better</b> - A very good stamp, but the premium price can make the self-inker a better value	<b>Good</b> - Mediocre features with a price roughly equal to a self-inker when cost of stamp pad is included
<b>USEABILITY</b>	Your best buy for ease of use, imprint quality, cleanliness and repeat stamping	Best imprint quality when used correctly, also allows for infrequent re-inking	Best for infrequent use when imprint quality isn't critical or when special inks are needed
<b>DURABILITY</b>	<b>Plastic Units</b> recommended for home, office and commercial use. <b>Metal units</b> recommended for industrial and heavy duty commercial use	Recommended for home, office, commercial & light industrial use	Recommended for industrial use
<b>CLEANLINESS</b>	<b>Best</b> - Very clean due to unexposed pad and the optional use of replacement pads instead of re-inking existing pads	<b>Better</b> - Relatively clean because it seldom need re-inking and ink is applied directly to the printing die or into inkwells	<b>Good</b> - Can be messy with the exposed rubber die and separate stamp pad as well as the need to re-ink the pad with liquid ink
<b>EASE OF USE &amp; IMPRINT QUALITY</b>	<b>Best</b> - Just press and print, the mechanism controls the amount of ink laid down on the paper. Outstanding imprint quality	<b>Better</b> - The amount of pressure can slightly affect the imprint quality. Extremely good imprint quality	<b>Good</b> - The amount of ink on the pad and the pressure used will significantly affect imprint quality. Fair imprint quality due to having to hold stamp very flat during use
<b>LIFE OF STAMP</b>	<b>Better</b> - <b>Plastic Units:</b> 100,000+ impressions with re-inking or pad replacement after 7,500 prints. <b>Metal Units:</b> 250,000+ prints with same re-inking as plastic units	<b>Best</b> - 100,000+ impressions with re-inking every 25,000-30,000 prints	<b>Good</b> - 100,000+ impressions with pad re-inking every 2,500 prints
<b>RANGE OF SIZES</b>	<b>Better</b> - 25+ sizes, some with special applications	<b>Best</b> - 40+ sizes, special applications: inspection, pencil cap, pocket	<b>Good</b> - Full range of sizes, limited special application
<b>USE WITH SPECIAL INKS</b>	<b>Good</b> - SOME special inks can be used, but are limited in their effectiveness due to air infiltration which can dry the special inks in the pad	Not applicable with standard pre-inks - Requires special <b>Xstamper Industrial</b> stamps with limited sizes and inks	<b>Best</b> - With the die made of RUBBER the stamp can be used with a wide range of special inks