DTF Installation and Operation Guide

DTF-A1, DTF-A3 and DTF-UV30 Printers — Installation and Setup Reference

Models covered by this document

Model	CobraFlex SKU	Description
DTF-A1 (24", 2-, 3- or 4-head)	CF-24-DTF-2HT652 / CF-24-DTF-4HT654	24" DTF Printer 2-Head / 4-Head White/Black, and the matching packages CF-24-DTF-2H-Wht-Blk-Package / CF-24-DTF-4H-Wht-Blk-Package
DTF-A3 (13")	CF-13-DTF-2HC30	13" DTF All-In-One Printer 2-Head White/Black, and package CF-13-DTF-Combo-2H-Package
DTF-UV30 (13" UV DTF)	CF-13-UV-DTF	13" UV DTF Printer (newer version)

Document	Installation and Operation Guide
Revision	2026-11
Prepared by	CobraFlex Printers LLC, 906 S. Priest Drive, Suite 104, Tempe, Arizona 85281
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Based on	DTF Installation and Operation Guide (CobraFlex, serial-number reference YT-ZD001A)

This guide covers the DTF-A1, DTF-A3 and DTF-UV30 printer models. It walks you through assembly, filling the inks, computer setup, the PrintEXP control software, the RIP software, and print-head calibration, and it links to maintenance instructions and the printer and powder-machine user manuals. The guide is updated based on customer feedback.

CobraFlex Service and Support

Email: **service@cobraflexprinters.com** Phone: (602) 930-1858

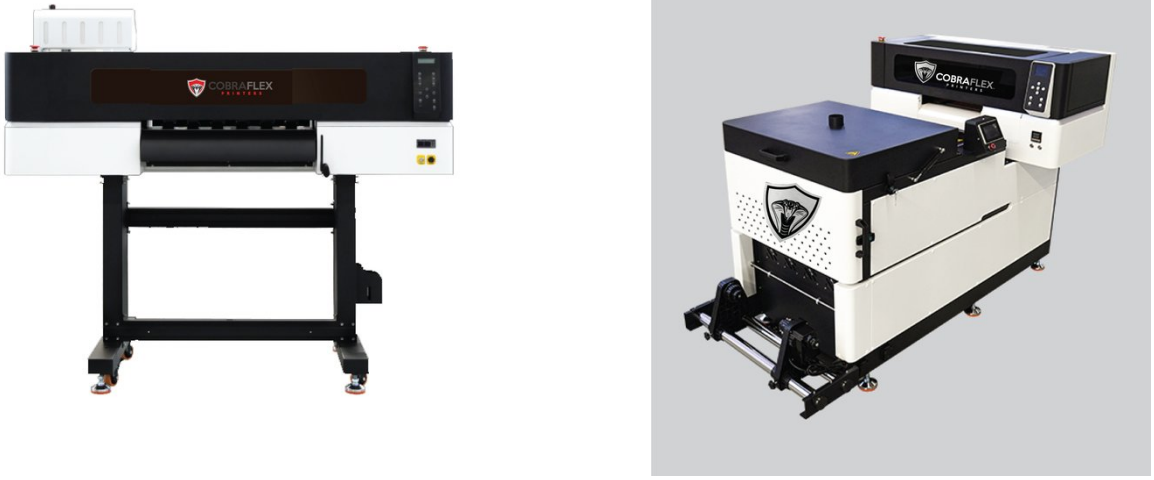
Support hours: Monday–Friday, 8:00 AM–4:00 PM Arizona time

Need help? Submit a service ticket: https://cobraflexprinters.zohodesk.com/portal/en/newticket

You can also email service@cobraflexprinters.com (this link opens a pre-filled email for the CobraFlex DTF-A1 / DTF-A3 / DTF-UV30 Printers, SKU CF-24-DTF-2HT652).

Please include your company name, the machine serial number, a description of the problem, and photos or a short video. For printers, also attach a current nozzle check print.

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CobraFlex 24" DTF printer (DTF-A1, left) and 13" DTF Combo printer (DTF-A3, right)

1. Installation

1.1 Printer Installation

Assemble the printer by following the installation video for your model.

COBRAFLEX DOWNLOAD DTF-A1 installation video	Open https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wzpXnoxZdF51dvRFkN8AR1uGki-nNO0A/view?usp=sharing
COBRAFLEX DOWNLOAD DTF-A3 installation video	Open https://drive.google.com/file/d/17_JJALvsW8ZV0N163isiAa99907brAtU/view?usp=sharing
COBRAFLEX DOWNLOAD DTF-UV30 installation video	Open https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZSQjBtkN3VLE_LwUYeh6WBDtL5S2uTdf/view?usp=sharing

> **Note:** For DTF-UV30 print-head installation, refer to the DTF-A3 video. Pay close attention to the key details below.

1.1.1 Remove the Carriage Protection Device

Remove the 4 screws in the marked area and take off the whole part.



Carriage protection device — remove the screws in the marked area

1.1.2 Add Inks

Fill each tank with the ink shown on its label. All ink tanks must be filled. Do not fully tighten the ink tank caps — air must be able to circulate.



Ink tanks — fill each tank according to its color label

1.2 Computer Configuration Requirements

- Gigabit Ethernet network adapter
- 64-bit computer operating system
- Mainstream, current-generation hardware configuration

> **Note:** Confirm that the network adapter is a Gigabit (1000M) NIC. The printer supports only a Gigabit Ethernet card.

1.3 PrintEXP Software Installation and Computer IP Address Setup

COBRAFLEX DOWNLOAD PrintEXP installation guide	Open https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rVSc54wL24CaNEHvlPJlkN7Py3zyPzMv/view?usp=sharing

Software installation tips and FAQs

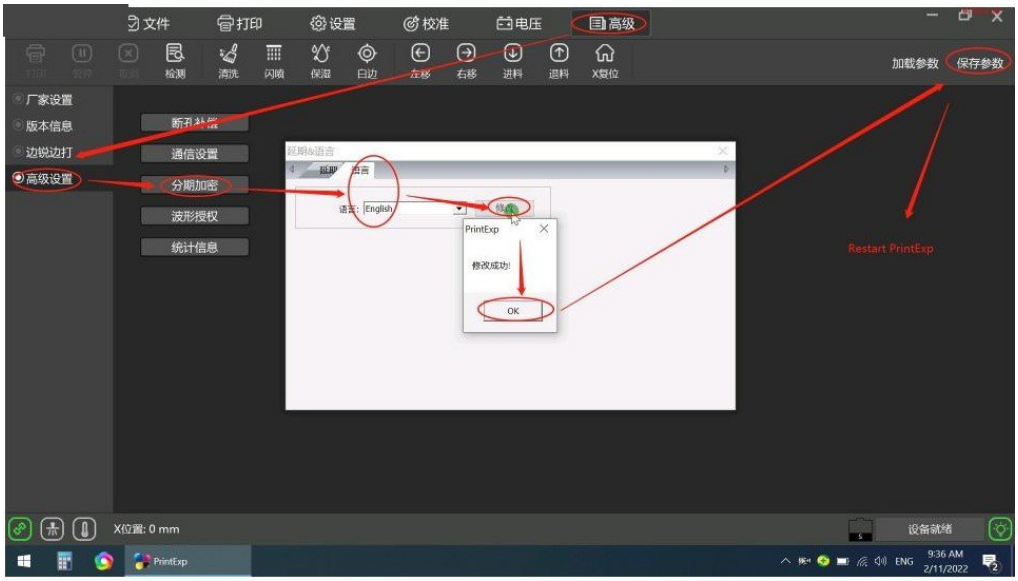
1. Turn off antivirus software before installing.
2. If PrintEXP runs abnormally or reports an error after installation, use the pre-installed (compressed) PrintEXP package available at the link above.
3. To change the PrintEXP language, use either method below.

Method 1: Close PrintEXP. Open its installation folder, go to the *Lang* folder, and edit *Lang.ini*: set DEFAULT to "2", save and exit, then reopen PrintEXP.



PrintEXP installation folder and the Lang.ini file

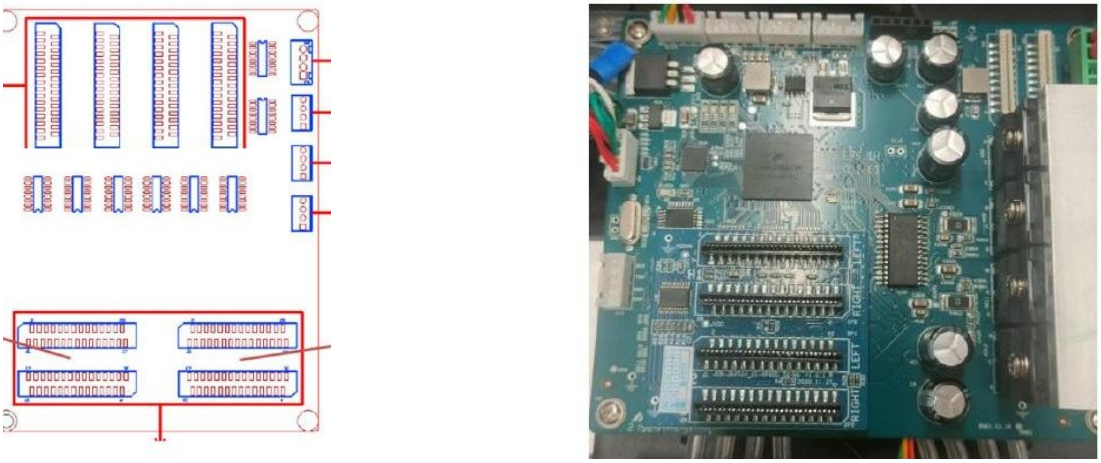
Method 2: In PrintEXP, go to Advanced settings, open the language dialog, select the language you want, and confirm. Restart PrintEXP to apply the change.



PrintEXP — Advanced settings, language dialog

1.3.4 PrintEXP Installation Package Downloads

DTF-A3. Choose the download that matches your head board: the flat-cable version or the black round-cable version.



DTF-A3 head boards — identify your version before downloading

COBRAFLEX DOWNLOAD DTF-A3, flat-cable head board: PrintEXP and firmware	Open https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1tHkzxOzJ5acVSDF7Ux6dOZSjFA4dpPS9?usp=sharing
COBRAFLEX DOWNLOAD DTF-A3, black round-cable head board: PrintEXP and firmware	Open https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1iG3a3RaIbUnG09hgjg_JBf7p65PN_Saw?usp=sharing
COBRAFLEX DOWNLOAD DTF-A1, 2-head: PrintEXP and firmware	Open https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1KiLHPp8j5kJO1Rz5-3cmh7ZTEj6VgliK?usp=sharing

COBRAFLEX DOWNLOAD DTF-A1, 3-head (fluorescent color): PrintEXP and firmware	Open https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/103T2pmBLH-O05MRVCZlCtFoENcSxjXie?usp=sharing
COBRAFLEX DOWNLOAD DTF-A1, 4-head: PrintEXP and firmware	Open https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Z4nSd4SiTHsRE4fD45qjZGmilEFNykwQ?usp=sharing
COBRAFLEX DOWNLOAD DTF-UV30: PrintEXP and firmware	Open https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/120o4pp0hXuXf8S8RGWZ4MBb6Bs4fz33z?usp=sharing

1.4 RIP Software Installation

COBRAFLEX DOWNLOAD RIIN installation package, video and ICC profiles	Open https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ZwGOF4QSacnMW7O4Vis4gPLRCF3aAk8n?usp=sharing
COBRAFLEX DOWNLOAD MainTop installation package, video and ICC profiles	Open https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1VeqEiDMNpwEf2r5fEXA9KlKNJ5nUOwQa?usp=sharing
COBRAFLEX DOWNLOAD FlexiPRINT installation package, video and ICC profiles	Open https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/12BYAA5z9NMm89D1eTxBHP39YDyyhDGmv?usp=sharing

1.5 PrintEXP Print-Head Calibration

COBRAFLEX DOWNLOAD Print-head calibration guide	Open https://docs.google.com/document/d/17h1ON2g-ErD39AUjP7-npJb5vQ_OH3og/edit?usp=sharing

After you complete all of the steps above, the printer should print normally. If you have any questions, contact CobraFlex Service.

2. Common Problems and Daily Maintenance

COBRAFLEX DOWNLOAD Daily maintenance instructions	Open https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RVQ9y69lW8gzSvQ0s4Qxh_NMlm2EKR35/view?usp=sharing
COBRAFLEX DOWNLOAD Color and white ink misalignment — instructions	Open https://drive.google.com/file/d/18VQfSggqvD2qAbQNmXmyhSJ9bDGQ5L-p/view?usp=sharing
COBRAFLEX DOWNLOAD X-axis gear ratio calibration — instructions	Open https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GJ-3ByJV3qR_-m-cNBChxkVkLVULdCz0/view?usp=sharing
COBRAFLEX DOWNLOAD RIIN ICC update — guidance video	Open https://drive.google.com/file/d/1K1BoqYB2xjmhFhGiFV0SO-GklfM15H3X/view?usp=sharing
COBRAFLEX DOWNLOAD Turning off the paper-detection function — instructions	Open https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Kud4YUqietwotc9PXJmcEQZSl5w0BbGJ/view?usp=sharing
COBRAFLEX DOWNLOAD Loading DTF firmware files — instructions	Open https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fh8fN0ajCuAbKQzrNA6Y3LxQeyiNMJIw/view?usp=sharing

3. Printer and Powder Machine User Manuals

> **Note:** The linked videos and files are kept on the CobraFlex shared drive and are updated from time to time. Check the links for the latest revision before you start a new installation.

Proper Operating Environment

Set up the equipment in conditions that match the requirements below. Each requirement is taken from the CobraFlex documentation named in brackets. Operating outside the machine's site specifications is not covered by the warranty.

Requirement	Specification
Location	Place the printer on a stable, level surface in a climate-controlled environment. Avoid direct sunlight, moisture, and excessive dust. [CobraFlex DTF Printer User Manual]
Room temperature	60–80 °F (16–27 °C) — CobraFlex standard.
Humidity	No numeric range is stated. Low humidity in the workshop is a common cause of partial ink breakage on the test strip. [PrintX T/S Series Maintenance Manual]
Ventilation and fire safety	Make sure the work area has adequate ventilation, and keep a fire extinguisher rated for electrical fires nearby. [CobraFlex DTF Printer User Manual]
Electrical power	Use a properly grounded power outlet. Do not modify or bypass the power cord's grounding pin. Turn off and unplug the printer before any maintenance, cleaning, or hardware adjustment. [CobraFlex DTF Printer User Manual]
Computer and network	Gigabit (1000M) Ethernet network adapter — the printer supports only a Gigabit Ethernet card; 64-bit operating system; mainstream, current-generation hardware. [CobraFlex printer installation manuals]
Inks and chemicals	Use only inks and cleaning solutions approved for this printer. Unapproved chemicals can damage the ink path and void the warranty. [CobraFlex DTF Printer User Manual]
Idle periods	If the printer will sit unused for more than 1 week, flush it completely and leave cleaning solution in the ink path. Contact CobraFlex to flush the printer if it will be unused for more than 2 weeks. [CobraFlex Warranty Terms and Conditions]
Site and relocation	Site conditions must conform to the machine site specifications. Do not move the equipment without notifying CobraFlex or your dealer; follow the proper shutdown and start-up procedure. [CobraFlex Warranty Terms and Conditions]

Warranty Summary

This is a summary of the CobraFlex Printers Warranty Terms and Conditions. The full terms are in the document *CobraFlex-CF-ALL-PRINTERS-DTF-UV-Printers-Warranty-Terms-and-Conditions-Rev2026-11.pdf* and online at https://cobraflexprinters.com/policies/terms-of-service; the full terms govern if anything here differs. CobraFlex Printers may change the warranty at any time.

- Limited warranty: the printer is free from defects in material and workmanship under normal use and service for a period of one (1) or two (2) years, depending on the model and purchase agreement, from the original date of purchase, excluding wear-and-tear items and consumable parts. The warranty is non-transferable and applies only to the customer who purchased directly from CobraFlex or an authorized CobraFlex dealer. CobraFlex will repair, substitute, or replace covered defective parts at its discretion.

- Remote technical service and support (phone and virtual) for 12 months from the installation date, with an optional extended warranty and service package for an additional 12 months, which must be purchased before the original term expires. On-site service and travel expenses are not covered.
- Remote service call-backs average within 6 business hours. Support hours are Monday–Friday, 8:00 AM–4:00 PM Arizona time. Emergency or after-hours service must be scheduled in advance through the CobraFlex Help Desk and is handled case by case.
- Print head: one print head is covered, prorated over 12 months, and is replaceable once during the first year. Clogging from a dried-out head (the wet-cap and cleaning procedure must be used daily), improper use, or a head strike on the film is not covered.
- Not covered: consumable and wear items such as dampers, filters, pump/capping stations, ink, ink lines, the ink train, the encoder strip, the head carriage, and anything that contacts ink or the capping station; damage from accident, misuse, forces of nature, or service by anyone other than a certified CobraFlex technician.
- Training is required. Customers who do not take part in CobraFlex training void the warranty, and every operator must have a training certification on file with CobraFlex.
- Use only CobraFlex-approved inks, media and chemicals. Third-party inks, chemicals or supplies void warranty coverage for related problems, and service is then billed at standard rates.
- If the printer will sit unused for more than 1 week, it must be completely flushed with cleaning solution left in the ink path; contact CobraFlex to flush the printer if it will be unused for more than 2 weeks.
- Site conditions must conform to the machine site specifications. Moving the equipment without notifying CobraFlex or its dealer voids the warranty immediately; a proper shutdown and start-up procedure must be followed.
- Returns: no returns after ink is put into the machine. A Dead-on-Arrival (DOA) period of 10 business days applies from customer sign-off at install, during which CobraFlex covers ground shipping for failed parts. Never sell or book product until 10 days after install.

CobraFlex Service and Support

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