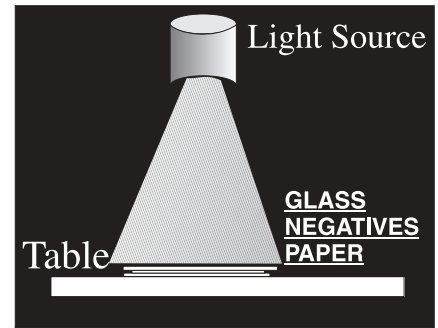


# The Proper Proof: Making a Contact Print

A proper proof is both a record of your photographs and a way to evaluate exposure, development and focus. You ignore the photo content and expose just enough to make the clear edge of the film go black. From this you can see which frames are good and which are over or under exposed / developed.



## In darkroom with amber safelight:

[ ] negatives [ ] photo paper [ ] glass or contact frame [ ] exposing light (enlarger) [ ] cardboard [ ] timer [ ] developer [ ] stop bath [ ] fixer [ ] wash water



**Do not use your plastic film sleeve when you make your contact sheet.**

Paper  
Polycontrast RC  
Glossy

emulsion side is shiny side

**Glass or Contact Frame**

make sure it is clean

Name, Date & Label and file your contact sheet. Use it to catalog and evaluate your negatives before printing. Contact sheets are very important. You must have one for each roll. They will be evaluated when projects are graded.

Film negatives- emulsion side is dull  
Film curls with emulsion on the inside

**(3)**

**Then use this time to expose the complete roll on a whole sheet of paper**

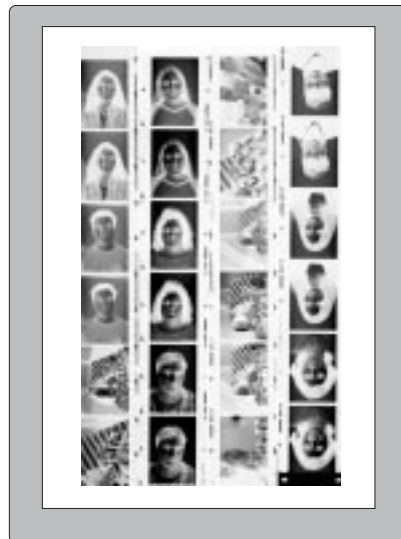
**(1) First Make a test strip with one strip of film**



**(2)**

Make sure that part of the strip is too light and part too dark.

Ignore the images; select the time where film around sprocket holes first turns black.



Paper- emulsion up  
Negatives - emulsion down  
Glass on top to hold flat

**The final contact sheet:  
"Proper Proof"**

Photo 1- Spring 2005 9/9/04 Paul Pearce



**Cardboard**  
Expose with enlarger light:  
Uncovered - 2 sec  
Cover part - exp 2 more sec.  
Cover more - exp 2 more sec  
Continue till all is covered  
Develop normally