



PREPRESS FILE REQUIREMENTS

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Industry standard software:

Adobe InDesign / QuarkXpress / Adobe Photoshop / Adobe Illustrator

- Use a page layout program such as Adobe InDesign or QuarkXpress. Avoid creating text pages in Adobe Illustrator or any other drawing or photo-imaging application.
- “**Package**” (InDesign) or “**Collect for Output**” (Quark Xpress) to gather supporting art files to send to PJ Printers. This is the surest method of providing us with all necessary artwork and fonts.
It is imperative that you provide us with the fonts that you have used. You must send the files containing both the screen (bitmapped) fonts and printer (outline) fonts, Provide us with all linked graphics, including ones that are placed in Illustrator files unless embedded..
- **Make your document/page layout the exact size that you want your printed piece to be.** For example, if your piece is an 8 1/2 x 11 brochure, make your document size 8 1/2 x 11. Do not make the document bigger and then add manual crop marks.
- **Do you need Facing pages or Single page layout.** Perfect-bound or wire-o-bound projects require bleed on all four sides of each page unlike a saddle stitch layout where the spine is a fold.
- **Bleeds** in your page layout file should be **.125** (or 1/8) inch, please include this on your document setup.
- Make sure the pixels-per-inch image size in your Photoshop files are twice the target line screen. For example, if you want to print with a **175-line screen, make the pixels-per-inch 350 at reproduction size.** (Pixels-per-inch is the same as dots-per-inch.) However, bitmapped images or line drawings should be over 600 dpi.
- The rule of thumb in creating gradients or blends is to create them in Adobe Photoshop. Create them on a transparent layer, and before you flatten the layer, add four percent noise with the noise filter. Gradients created in a page layout program may result in banding if they are any longer than a few inches.
- Do not enlarge a placed Photoshop, or pixel-based file, in your page layout program by more than 20 percent, as this reduces the pixels-per-inch.
- **PJ Printers** Prepress workflow accepts images in both CMYK and RGB, however we encourage you to convert images to CMYK Convert all RGB colors to **CMYK**, especially in photographic images before you hand-off your files to us. This way you can soft-proof your CMYK images on your monitor and see the color results after the conversion.
- Make sure that your Pantone color is correctly specified as a process color (screen mix) or as a **Spot color** in your page-layout program.
- **Dielines** should be created with a one-point rule and defined with as spot-color. Place “Dieline” spot color in a separate layer in your layout document. Please be very accurate when creating dielines. We have an in-house CAD department so we offer this service as well. Please contact your CSR..
- **Emboss, deboss, and foil** should be supplied as vector artwork on a separate layer.
- **Make Color printouts of everything and indicate color breaks.** Please include the latest update; make sure that the printout matches the file you give us. If the printout is reduced, please indicate this. If you are uploading your files to our FTP site, please include a low resolution PDF file. This lets us see what you intend your project to look like. This will assist us in giving you the best possible result, while reducing the chance of errors, omissions, costly changes, and time to produce your proofs.