

Prepress File Specifications

File Formats

PDF is our preferred file format for receiving files.

Export from your open file using our export settings, which are available for download on our website. This will ensure that the PDF has been made to a print standard. (i.e. they are PDF/X with PDF1.3 compatibility, which is designed to enable reliable exchange and output of graphics files and eliminates many of the colour, font and transparency variables that lead to printing problems).

PDF's should be supplied with:

- at least 3mm bleed
- all colours to be set to final output colour space (i.e. composite CMYK, unless spot colours are to be used)
- no RGB images
- all fonts embedded
- multiple page documents to be supplied as a complete document with the pages as singles, **NOT** spreads
- dielines, fold lines, perf lines, etc; to be assigned to a spot colour and set to overprint, otherwise they will print

Native Application Checklist:

The authoring application should be built based on the following:

- All mechanical specifications, such as trim and bleed, are correct
- All fonts supplied or converted to outlines
- All linked images to be supplied or embedded as high resolution
- All colours to be set to final output colour space (i.e. composite CMYK, unless spot colours are to be used)
- RGB files to be converted to CMYK
- Transparencies, if used, are flattened (ensure all transparent objects are in CMYK for proper flattening)

Applications that can be accepted

- Adobe InDesign CS5
- Adobe Illustrator CS5
- Adobe Photoshop CS5
- Adobe Acrobat 9.0
- QuarkXPress 6.5
- Macromedia Freehand 10

Earlier versions of the above applications can be accepted

File Supply (In order of preference)

- Upload via our website
- Emailed files
- CD / DVD
- USB Flash Drive

Things to remember

- We run a Mac Design Suite. We prefer not to accept files created on a PC.
- Our Export Settings are available on our webpage, please export your files using our export settings.
- Supply your files in the colours that the job is going to be printed in (e.g. Spot or Process).
- Bleed should be set to 3mm minimum.
- If screen ruling other than 175 LPI is required, please note this clearly.
- Supply all fonts that you've used with the final document. Fonts that are used in linked EPS files need to be converted to paths prior to linking into the final document.
- Scanning resolutions should be 300 dpi for colour and grayscale and 1200 dpi for bitmap.
- Website graphics are NOT good enough quality and therefore should not be used.
- Once you have the document on your chosen transfer media, open it from that source to make sure all links and fonts are included and are accessible.
- Imposition is an integral part of the workflow that we use. We would prefer to impose files ourselves rather than receiving files already imposed.
- If you are unsure how to produce an accurate and usable PDF, please supply the open files as well.