PrePress File Specifications

PREFERRED FILE FORMATS

► Adobe CC 2014 (or lower versions)
► Adobe Acrobat –PDF (Press-Quality)
► PDF/X-1a
► EPS

We DO NOT accept files from QuarkXPress, Freehand, Corel Draw, Pagemaker, or any Microsoft products (Word, Publisher, etc.)

GENERAL GUIDELINES

► All files should be built at 100% with single pages set to the trim size. Exceptions include book work and two-sided pieces (these should be multi-page documents), and Large/Grand format pieces larger than 200" in either dimension (these should be at 1/4 or 1/2 scale and must be proportional to final size.)

► All files should have .25" bleed beyond the trim and all marks offset .25" from trim. Include 1" bleed for DyeSub/Fabric jobs and any job that may require sewing. (If proper bleed is not provided, art may be adjusted for production purposes.)

► Files should be named by part number whenever applicable.

► Supply only files, fonts, graphics and images needed for output.

► PDF documents should be created and saved as Print Quality.

► Create artwork to edge of document. Do not add registration and crop marks.

► For Offset work, dielines should be built as a spot color named 'Dieline', set to Overprint and reside on their own layer.

► Imagine-Express will trap all files.

► Hard copy or confirming PDFs should be supplied with all files to ensure correct reproduction.

► When possible, provide your logo as vector art.

FONTS

► Include copies of all fonts used in your file, graphics and images.

► We recommend using OpenType, Type1 or Postscript fonts. TrueType and Multimaster fonts are no longer supported and we don't recommend using them.

► Embed all fonts when writing PDF's.

► Don't include system fonts (.dfont) when collecting for output, instead include the actual foundry font.

► Fonts 9 points or smaller on work produced digitally may not reproduce satisfactorily. We recommend using 10 point or larger Sans Serif fonts.

COLOR

► The only acceptable color management is the standard GRACoL2006_v2.icc profile (This is available through http://ideaalliance.org) Only Lightjet photographic imaging can remain RGB profile Colormatch RGB.icc.

► Use CMYK unless spot colors are used, avoid using RGB images.

► Identify PMS or special mix colors, keep names consistent and delete unused colors.

► Pantone or PMS colors will be matched to a Pantone book not the computer screen.

► Provide corporate PMS colors or a printed example of acceptable color. If no PMS colors are provided, it will be "PRINTED AS IS".

PLEASE NOTE: For Lightjet and UV Digital Printing we cannot guarantee a match to process colors, percentages of spot color, or your own color mixes. Please do not specify metallic or fluorescent color, as it is impossible to match these on photo graphic paper or CMYK inks. These jobs are produced by RGB Photographic process or CMYK inks, therefore not all Pantone colors are achievable.

IMAGES

► Set the Document Raster Effects (Effect Menu) to 300ppi in Illustrator before beginning the project.

► When utilizing transparency effects in Illustrator or InDesign, keep vector art on a top layer whenever possible.

► Include all Hi-Res images/art. 300dpi for images/CTs and 800-1200dpi for 1-bit tiffs at 100% size.

► Any enlargements over 125% can pixelize depending on initial resolution.

► "Rezzing Up" an image to a higher dpi, will only soften the image and not add detail. Always preview raster artwork at actual print size to check for any hidden flaws.

► Embedding images in software programs is not recommended. Link the files and include them separately. Do all cropping and rotating in Photoshop before placement.

► If you have critical colors in your Photoshop file or tiff, please send the layered file. Otherwise, flatten all layered files.

RESOLUTION

► For **Photographic Prints** ideal file resolution is between 200 and 300 dpi at size.

► For **Offset and Small Format Digital** Prints ideal file resolution is 300 dpi at size.

► For **Large and Grand Format** prints file resolution must be between 50 and 150 dpi at size, dependant on viewing distance. Graphics are viewed in the context of their environment and in doing so are viewed at a distance. For 1-5 feet keep resolution at 150 dpi. For larger distances, such as over 10 feet, resolution can be as low as 50 dpi at size. These sizes are approximate, therefore more resolution might be needed depending on the image and other variables. Should questions exist, consult your sales representative.