PackZen

Flexo Print Pre-Press Guidelines

File types accepted to obtain a PDF proof:
  • Adobe CC and lower:
        - Illustrator (.AI, .EPS, .PDF)
        - InDesign (.INDD, .PDF)
        - Photoshop (.PSD, .EPS, .PDF)

Preferred Vector Formatted Files - (.EPS)
Vectors are line art made from points that can be scaled indefinitely without degrading quality.
Vectored art is the most adaptable and the ONLY format that will be spot color separated.

Printer's White:
For color accuracy and/or a more opaque effect, spot white backup ink is needed when printing on any non-white surface. Any portion of the design that is intended to print white, must be a spot color, have a vector path, and supplied on it's own individual layer. 0%C, 0%M, 0%Y, 0%K, will remain unprinted, and will default to the product's substrate color. To alleviate the interpretation of where white is used in the file, please use a designated spot color.

Print Bleeds:
If the print is to bleed, special tooling is needed.
This should be identified during the quoting phase of the project.
If special tooling is not planned, print can only bleed on the top and/or bottom, never to the right or left.

Native Files (Links / Fonts / Supporting Files):
Providing native/layered application of the files, including supporting links, paths, and fonts, will allow for the ability to perform last minute corrections, file reprocessing, or problem solving if needed.

Pixel based imagery should be saved in .tiff, .psd or .eps formats, and have a minimum resolution of 300 dpi.
It is not recommended to place or build text in Photoshop if possible, to avoid process built text and/or the pixilated noise it creates when flattened. If the design requires the text to be built in Photoshop, leaving it live/edit-able/un-flattened is necessary.

It is recommended to separate process black from line copy (type, rules, etc.) when using both process graphics and solid black elements on the same side. The results will generally be better if the solid black elements are printed on a separate station from the black used in the process color. This allows the process imagery to be adjusted on press for color match without compromising the print quality of the solid black text and/or elements.

All fonts (Type 1 Postscript preferred) should be provided with the submitted artwork. Text that has been converted to paths or outlines (the letter characters are graphic shapes) are also acceptable. Should changes be needed to outlined text, the submission of the font or a new corrected file with the changes will be required.

In general, it is not recommended to use any type smaller than 6 points for positive print, or less than 8 points for reverse or knock out type. These recommendations can vary depending on the serif, kerning, leading, boldness, or nature of the different styles of fonts, and should be taken into consideration.

Avoid reversing type from four-color process. If this is not possible, outline the reverse type with black or a dark color at least .010" thick to help the text remain uncontaminated by misregistration on press.

When designing a Flexo project, it is imperative that gradations, transparencies, color percentages, or vignettes never fade to zero and/or to the white backup. Percentages of color can only fade out to a minimum of 2% of any color to print.

File Submission/Transfer:
Final native files must be submitted as Print Ready on the supplied template (with all layers) to be accepted. Submitting incomplete files may result in additional cost and/or time needed to process them for press.
If the files need modifications, manipulation rate is billed at $125.00 per hour.

A high-res pdf of the final file must be submitted for our pre-flight comparison.

For quality printing, we maintain the right to reject art, as well as make recommendations to the design to achieve the highest quality print within the limits of our process.

All files should be Zipped (PC) or Stuffed (Mac) to avoid corruption during transfer.

File attachments can be received via email (≤ 10MB) or submitted with the FTP uploader tool:
http://www.univenture.com/upload
Please notify your sales rep of the file name when it is successfully uploaded.

To be scheduled, a signed artwork approval form for the PDF proof is required.