



Artwork and PDFs

We can accept artwork for Mac and PC. Listed below are the formats which we support. This list is updated regularly so please ask for the latest information.

MAC

QuarkXpress 5, 6, 6.5, 7.

In-Design CS, CS2, CS3.

Photoshop CS, CS2, CS3.

Illustrator 10, CS, CS2, CS3.

PC

Quark 6, 6.5.

Pagemaker 6.5.

Microsoft Publisher.

Microsoft Word.

Our preferred format is PDF. PDFs can be produced in many ways but the way we recommend is to make a postscript file and then distil this using Acrobat Distiller. Below is a guide for making Postscript in Quark Xpress for distilling.

If your job is A4 and is CMYK for lithographic printing then you need to set the page up with 3mm bleed on all edges (this is to avoid problems when trimming the job). The page size can be set to 230 wide and the height left at automatic and registration switched on and the page centred. The print composite setting is what you require in the output tab. This will produce a PDF that allows for the bleed and gives the tick marks and registration so that page geometry can be worked out. If you wish to use spot colours then set the output tab to Device N and the spot colours will appear in the list.

When using Acrobat Distiller you can use the Press Quality setting but remember in the settings tab - colour - colour management policies use convert all colours to CMYK for four colour jobs or use Leave as is for your spot colour jobs.

GENERAL NOTES ON SENDING JOBS TO SPECTRUM

Knockout and Overprint - All objects need to have a trapping value. White type needs to have a trapping value of knockout and although it may appear OK in your Page Layout programme, it still needs to be checked. In QuarkXpress this is done by selecting the type/object and choosing VIEW - SHOW TRAP INFORMATION, this will need to read KNOCKOUT. With In-Design/Illustrator you can select OVERPRINT PREVIEW and use attributes palette to make sure OVERPRINT is de-selected.

Rule Thickness

There is a limit on how fine rule thicknesses can be. We suggest 0.2 point, our system will thicken rules automatically so this may not be a critical issue.

SPOT UV

Spot UV should be supplied as a separate PDF and the colour make-up is of one solid colour. This can be black.

PLEASE CALL US IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES CONCERNING YOUR ARTWORK ETC