

This information is not just for the curious, but will greatly help you to provide your files to us in the most readily-usable form. Your artwork will require fewer modifications (and eliminate surprises or delays) if you are mindful of these technical considerations.

How to **BUILD** for printing:

Bleeds:

Art files with 1/8" bleeds (additional area outside of the cut lines) work best.

Margins:

The area inside the cut lines. To conform to our cutting tolerances on various equipment, keep all elements at least 1/16" inside the cut lines. Borders that meet the cut edge should be 1/16" thick.

Color Matching:

Use PANTONE Solid Coated color swatches to help us match your intended color selections.

Font Size Minimum:

Positive: 5pt; Reversed: 5pt bold or 6 pt

Minimum Line Weight:

One color - Positive: 0.35 points; Reversed: 0.75 pt

Marks:

We do not require you to create crop marks, registration targets, or color bars. We add them in prepress.

Average shift tolerance:

1 to 1.5 pts on press (.01" to .015")

A small amount of variance in sheet-to-sheet registration is normal and expected, especially with hand-fed sheets. We build a degree of compensation into the art to manage this.

See also:

MITO Doming Guide for guidelines on domed decals

MITO Cut Line Guide for guidelines on thermal-die-cut letters

How to **SEND** your files:

File Submission Methods:

Email files directly to your sales representative for quoting and ordering. For large files (over 10 MB), please contact your sales rep for transfer options.

Our Production Software:

We use the Adobe Creative Suite (Illustrator, Photoshop). Most of our layout work is performed in Illustrator.

Vector Artwork Files:

Adobe Illustrator, EPS, DWG, DXF, and vector-based PDF
Vector files are preferred in most cases.

Only vector formats supply us with accurate cut lines, and the ability to separate the colors in your job into spot inks when required. Vector files are math-based and express smooth curves and scalable detail.

Raster Image Files:

TIFF, PSD, PNG, JPG, and raster PDF

Raster files are normal for **photographic images**, and frequently used in four-color and full-color printing. Raster images are pixel-based at a fixed resolution.

Special Requirements:

- Please outline all fonts, or use standard typestyles that are universally available. Due to licensing issues, you may not just send your fonts to us.
- Embed or supply all images used within your art.
- Raster images should be supplied in CMYK mode, and at least 300 dpi resolution.

Please refer to the **MITO File Submission Guidelines** for more detailed information about **vector and raster file formats**.