

C 01793 613088

the exhibition specialists

File Setup Guidelines

Supported Software & Artwork types	Adobe's Indesign, Illustrator & Photoshop and Quark Xpress are our preferred packages, as well as PDFs that are PDF-X compliant.				
	Please see our Software & Artwork Types sheet, for an overview of possible file types. If artwork is supplied in an unsupported package such as Microsoft's Word, PowerPoint or Publisher, then a transference fee [where transference is possible] will be charged at our current hourly rate.				
Formats	Where possible, please use Adobe InDesign or Quark Xpress to build your page layouts. Always 'link' elements between your layout package and your support files - never embed them as if there are any issues with the supporting files then we will be unable to edit them if they have been embedded.				
Size	Set up your files at full size where possible or in a true proportion - half scale, quarter scale etc. Adobe Indesign can create pages up to 5.4m whereas Quark Xpress is limited to 1.2m. Set up files with 3mm bleed on all edges at 100%. All prints are digitally cut, so this bleed ensures an accurate finish.				
Fonts	Please supply all fonts when using Adobe InDesign or Quark Xpress. The job collection functions in Adobe InDesign or Quark Xpress will collect everything we need. Where possible, always try to convert 'fonts to curves' in support files e.g. in Adobe Illustrator. Never use the 'stylising' tools in Quark Xpress, the changes these tools make are not supported in printer RIPs and will be ignored, converting your text back to the plain version of the font.				
Colour	Please advise Access if you wish to match a specific Pantone colour. Access will then endeavour to match to the colour as closely as possible. Sadly, it may well be impossible to match to certain Pantone colours due to the limitations of CMYK printing and the make up of Pantone inks. Avoid using percentages/tints of Pantone colours, try to choose a separate Pantone colour instead. For best colour matching always try to create your Pantones as Pantone Solid Coated colours.				
Photographic Elements	When creating image elements please set up at a minimum of 75dpi at 100% for general images. If the image contains fine detail or text then this resolution should increase to 150+ dpi at 100% as any pixelation is much more noticeable around the edges of text. All bitmap files, from Photoshop etc., must be converted to CMYK and saved as uncompressed TIFF or EPS. JPEG compression will cause a loss of image quality. Please see our Bitmaps & Vectors sheet, for a fuller explanation.				
Artwork Supply	'Collect for Output' when using Quark (collect fonts) and 'Package' in InDesign (fonts will be collected). Please supply all elements in their native format. If colour matching is required in Photoshop then please supply the layered files so that we have access to change elements if required. Please supply a colour proof - this will be for content only, not colour matching. It is important to note that the quality of output is directly related to the quality of input. Thus, please supply the best quality, highest resolution files you can!				
Please Do Not	Do not use Quark's in built gradients, they will unfortunately band. Recreate the gradient in Photoshop and import into your layout software. Try not to use Illustrator's gradients, these too may band. Again, recreate in Photoshop and import into your layout software. Try not to use the built in Transparency and Shadowing features in Illustrator, Quark and Indesign as these effects can cause RIP/print errors and colour discrepancies. Do not interpolate small bitmap files up to large ones as the quality will not scale with the resolution. Try not to send logos as bitmap files [especially those 'lifted' from websites], logos should be vector files with fonts converted to outlines.				

Should you have any questions concerning this information then feel free to contact your Access Sales Representative on **01793 613088.**

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Bitmaps & Vectors

Resolution for print is measured in dots per inch, or 'dpi', and the quality of your art work is dependent on how high the resolution is. The more pixels (or dots) you have per square inch, the more information is contained within that inch, and thus the higher the resolution!



e.g. If the squares are an inch square and the dots were pixels, the image in the square on the left would be 18dpi and the image in the square on the right would be 64dpi. The image on the right would have higher quality than the image on the left.

Resolution like this only really matters for bitmap images. Bitmap images are images made up of a series of dots, like the images you take with your camera and this is why cameras with a higher megapixel rating are more expensive. They can achieve a higher resolution/higher quality of image!

Most people trip up when they are trying to rescale art work to a larger size. They think that the resolution won't change. This is a potentially disastrous misunderstanding. Resolution is inversely proportional to the direction you scale it. This means that if you have a piece of art work at 50% of finished size, which is at 300dpi, if you scale it to 100% of finished size the resolution will be halved. The finished art work now has a resolution of 150dpi. You have scaled up by 200%, and the resolution is reduced by 50%. Often, we will ask for a high quality vector image. This is because we can guarantee it's quality at any size.

Vector images are made up of multiple points linked together mathematically and thus can be scaled by the computer PERFECTLY to any size. Vectors are ideally used to generate company logos [where uses will be varied from small [letterheads] to large [signage], as well as to keep text pin-sharp for maximum legibility.



Bitmap scaling, on the other hand is 'guessed/interpreted' by the computer. Because bitmap images only contain so many points of information (dpi) when you scale them up, the space between the known dots gets bigger and the computer will try and guess/interpret dots to fill in the gaps. As can be seen, this usually results in less that sharp output.

Of course there will always be instances where bitmaps are unavoidable, but if you are ever in doubt of anything PLEASE check your art work and contact us. We will be very happy to help!

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Software & Artwork Types

Suffix	Program	Accepted?	Vetor/Bitmap	Info
.pdf	Acrobat	\checkmark	Mixed	PDF-X Compatible files exported from a lot of programs
.ai	Illustrator	\checkmark	Vector	Vector based format that can contain images, though this is not recommended
.eps	Illustrator/Photoshop	\checkmark	Mixed	Hybrid format that can contain images and vectors depending on source program
.qxd	Quark Xpress	\checkmark	Mixed	Layout program - all support files must also be sent
.indd	InDesign	\checkmark	Mixed	Layout program - all support files must also be sent
.tif	Photoshop	\checkmark	Image	Flattened and saved with LZW compression
.psd	Photoshop	\checkmark	Image	Flattened
.jpg	Photoshop/Camera	\checkmark	Image	Flattened and saved with Maximum Quality compression
.png	Photoshop	\varkappa	Image	Mostly used for low resolution web programming
.gif	Photoshop	\varkappa	Image	Mostly used for low resolution web programming
.pub	Microsoft Publisher	\varkappa	Mixed	We are unable to open Publisher files and Exporting seems to not save all elements/effects correctly
.doc	Word	\varkappa	Mixed	Designed for low resolution desktop applications. Exporting seems to not save all elements/effects
.ppt	PowerPoint	\varkappa	Mixed	Designed for low resolution screen based images. Not recommended
.xls	Excel	\varkappa	Mixed	Very limited graphic capabilities. Not recommended
.cdr	CorelDraw	\varkappa	Mixed	No longer developed. We are unable to open CDRs

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