



ARTWORK GUIDELINES

A. LABEL SPECIFIC GUIDELINES: Prepare artwork using a template/specifications sheet for your product. These are available through your salesperson or from our website (acimplastics.com/download-data-sheets/). Templates can be provided on disk, or e-mail.

Die Lines

1. Die line or Key line. - Be sure you have the correct die shape for your label. The die line shape is usually named 'die' or 'dieline' and is colored so it is easy to see. Vivid colors like cyan, magenta or green are often used.
2. Be sure that the dies dimensions are correct within the application. Sometimes a die has been scaled slightly, to be certain that it is correct, please measure it.

Bleed

We require a 1/8 inch or 3 mm bleed on most labels. For labels that are to be modified to change from a straight design to fit a curved container, please provide a 1/4 inch or 6 mm bleed.

Copy Limit

We need 3/32" or 2.5 mm keep away from the die edge for trimming. Please keep any important information or critical graphics out of this area. This area is our print-to-cut tolerance.

B. GENERAL GUIDELINES

Text and Line Widths - Our minimum sizes

1. Positive - Single Color - 6 pt Text & 0.4 pt Line
2. Reverse - Single Color - 7 pt Text & 0.6 pt Line
3. Positive - Multiple Color - 7 pt Text & 0.7 pt Line
4. Reverse - Multiple Color - 7 pt Text & 0.7 pt Line

Images

Images should be delivered in CMYK unless otherwise discussed.

Line art such as logos and clip art that are bitmapped should be 240 dpi.

Images should be 300 dpi. If you enlarge an image 200% it's effective resolution is cut in half. Try to achieve a 300 dpi effective resolution.

Inks & Colors

Please review the maximum number of colors available with us. The amount of units available on press depends on how many whites, coatings and the type of material being used.

Shaped Containers

In producing a drink cup or round container, it is recommended that the use of horizontal lines or borders be avoided. When the label is applied to the container, there is no guarantee that the label will line up perfectly, this will result in a misalignment of the line or border at the seam.

C. WHITE INKS ON TRANSPARENT MATERIAL

Please indicate where white backing is required if you are printing on transparent material.

Note: Printing white behind a color will help to produce a stronger color. However, printing color on transparent material with white ink does not achieve the same density or strength of color as printing on a white material.



SOFTWARE & NATIVE FILES

All incoming artwork should be created using **Adobe Illustrator**.

Be sure to include any supporting files (placed images, fonts etc...) If files cannot be created in Adobe Illustrator, we can accept native files. Even if you are providing us with a PDF we encourage you to send the native files. Having these files helps us make changes when necessary and can aid us in analyzing problems.

Here is a list of the applications we support:

Adobe CS & CC Suites including Illustrator, InDesign and Photoshop

Quark XPress 7.3 & 8.5

We request that the software guidelines are followed. Other software packages may not produce good results and/or the files may not be able to be produced.

PDF FILES

PDF's are a great way to package your files so that your job is delivered with all the images and fonts. If you are going to use this method you need to be sure that your job is correct and complete. We will not be able to make changes to your PDF. We can apply trapping to a PDF file.

Please save your PDF in the PDF/X-4:2008 format (PDF 1.4)

The PDF/X-4:2008 format embeds fonts, images, transparency and the use of layers is supported.

Please create your PDF as a High Resolution PDF.

As mentioned before, providing your native files with your PDF is still encouraged.

PREFLIGHT & PRODUCTION

Files received and ready for production will be checked for the following:

1. Label size, adequate bleed, copy limits maintained, border sizes
2. Colors
3. Resolution and color mode of images

Shaping labels - If necessary, we can use the rectangular art supplied to create shaped art to fit a cup or round container. It is critical to begin with the correct rectangular dimensions.