

PROGRAPHICS PREFLIGHT CHECKLIST FOR LITHOGRAPHIC AND DIGITAL PRINTING

Document size: Document should be created to the final physical trim size. In InDesign, choose PAGE SIZE; in Illustrator, choose ARTBOARD SIZE.

Bleeds: Extend any artwork touching the edge of your document 0.125" beyond the trim.

Fonts: Fonts must be packaged and supplied to the printer with your job.

Type: Thin or small type should not be colored using screen builds. If necessary, choose a PMS ink to create the desired color of small or thin type.
Black text should be 100% black, not CMYK black or "Registration."

Colors: Check that colors are CMYK, not RGB or LAB. Jobs that will print in spot colors should have the colors indicated correctly and consistently. For example, Pantone 185 U, Pantone 185 CVC, etc.) Any unused Pantone colors must be deleted from your swatches.

Links: Images should be converted to CMYK. Ideally, images should be 300 DPI or higher. The image's total ink density, even in shadow areas, should not exceed 300%.

Rule lines: Don't submit artwork with hairline rules. Generally, keep rule lines .5 points or higher (see thin and small type)

Varnish and special elements: Varnish and special treatment areas should be treated as SPOT colors. (He suggested putting varnish shapes on a separate layer named SPOT or VARNISH, and assigning them a swatch named "VARNISH" but that looks magenta)

Packaging: Use InDesign preflight and packaging features to be sure all fonts and links are included in your job.

Exporting PDF files: The Adobe preset "High Quality Print" setting should be used for jobs on the digital printers. Use the "Press Quality" setting for jobs printing on litho presses. Printers crop marks should be turned on with an offset of 0.125" and bleed margins set to 0.125"

Transferring files: ProGraphics accepts files via Dropbox, WeTransfer, and similar services. Contact their sales representative to upload files directly onto their FTP server.