

Generation of print data

General

- Image resolution 250 dpi
- 5 mm trim
- ca. 3 mm safety distance to the cutting edge
- converting typefaces into paths

Preferably you send us your file as a PDF/X format (see PDF creation). Generally speaking all other customary file formats are acceptable but please note that additional costs may be incurred if the data are not sent to us ready for printing.

Data preparation

Send just one PDF file per product – if necessary as several pages. Please add cutting marks to the print file. Data can be made available as uploads through our website, by e-mail (up to 10 MB) or on a suitable data carrier.

Data upload

<https://www.ecospace.co.uk/service/webupload/>

PDF generation:

- Export from professional layout software:
Select a PDF/X version (X-1a, X-3 or X-4) for your export settings, only PDF/Y-1a in Corel Draw.
- PDF generation by Acrobat Distiller:
Please choose a PDF/X version or “print output quality” as your Distiller setting.

Other file formats

- JPG
Save with maximum quality and baseline (standard)
Use standard JPG format, e.g. not JPG 2000.
- TIF/PSD
Reduced to background level,
no alpha channels,
no clipping paths.

Open data and Office files

When sending open data please ensure that you send us all links and fonts used. Office files (Word, Excel) may be used for providing text bodies or databases.

Image resolution

Reference values for image resolution (tiff/jpg)								
Print size in mm	Size of artwork / resolution							
	A4	A3	A2	A1	A0	2380 x 1680	3360 x 2380	630 x 297
297 x 210	300 dpi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
420 x 297	300 dpi	250 dpi	-	-	-	-	-	-
594 x 420	300 dpi	250 dpi	200 dpi	-	-	-	-	-
841 x 594	300 dpi	250 dpi	200 dpi	150 dpi	-	-	-	-
1189 x 841	300 dpi	250 dpi	200 dpi	150 dpi	100 dpi	-	-	-
2380 x 1680	300 dpi	250 dpi	200 dpi	150 dpi	100 dpi	50 dpi	-	-
3360 x 2380	300 dpi	250 dpi	200 dpi	150 dpi	100 dpi	50 dpi	40 dpi	-
5040 x 2380	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	250 dpi

Normally images of 250 dpi should be created for printed matter up to size A3, but when the final format is larger it usually suffices to have a lower resolution because such images are looked at from further away so that the dots cannot be distinguished with the naked eye. Generally speaking, the length of the diagonal is deemed as a useful viewing distance.

When original format data are supplied with an “excessively high” resolution this does not translate into visibly better quality. Moreover, the data volume is substantially greater which in turn means longer production periods and higher production costs.

Colours

Please supply your data in CMYK or grey scale modes. RGB and special colours are automatically converted to CMYK in our workflow. In doing this, colour shifts may occur since some colours are partly outside the CMYK colour space and therefore cannot be exactly reproduced. Moreover, different print processes (digital printing, screen printing, flexo printing) may show differences in reproducing the same colour values.

Spot colours

Please inform us in writing if one or more spot colours are necessary. Moreover, spot colour elements should be shown as such in the print file (e.g. Pantone, HKS, RAL).

Black and grey objects

Texts or lines should be in pure black only.

Example:

cyan 0%, magenta 0%, yellow 0%, black 60%, or
cyan 0%, magenta 0%, yellow 0%, black 100%

For black areas, jet black can be achieved by adding other colour components.

Example: cyan 60%, magenta 40%, yellow 40%, black 100%

Monitor setting / calibration

Monitors are typically sold with arbitrary settings of colours, contrasts and brightness distributions. But in order to have proper colour rendering, the monitor needs to be expertly calibrated in order to display a suitable softproof.

Substrate

With substrates varying in coloration and brightness, colour value may be rendered differently on different substrates.

Typeface

Typeface is correctly displayed and printed only when either the font is available or the typeface exists as a path. This means that we need the typeface either:

- as a path when no text change is necessary in the file;
- or as an enclosed file when text changes (e.g. mutations) are necessary in the file.

Line width

The width of the lines defined in the print file should not be less than 0.1 mm.

File name

The file name may include information such as article, format, page and date.

e.g.: sign_450x250_front_20170520

INFO

Go to <https://www.ecospace.co.uk/service/data-acceptance-guidelines/> to find our data acceptance guidelines as download.

Additional costs accrued from processing unprintable data are charged at the applicable hourly rates for graphic services, subject to prior information.