

Trisoft Graphics recommends the following general guidelines when building electronic files for color separations. These standard practices will help alleviate the most common problems that hold up the work and increase the cost of the job.

#### We prefer files in the following formats:

- **Illustrator Files:** Current or older CC Version Illustrator .ai or .pdf files
- **Photoshop Files:** Current or older CC Version Photoshop .psd, .eps, or .tif files
- **Esko Native Files:** Normalized PDF's

If you are using a different software package that is not listed above, please export your file with embedded or outlined fonts as a ".eps" file or a ".pdf" file. Email us or Send us a Message so we can walk you through the process.

### File Setup & Graphic Elements

- Art should be setup at 100% size to fit die (We are able to resize down to fit smaller dies, and resize up to 20% larger.)
- Minimum line weight must be **.25 of a point** (hairline)
- The "Document Color Mode" should be set to CMYK not RGB. All support files should also be CMYK and/or Spot Colors - RGB is not supported.
- Gradations should be created using "Gradients" (not blends) when possible.
- A **1/16" (.0625")** margin should be maintained from the dieline to any art that is not bleeding off. Be sure to add **1/8" (.125") of bleed** on all sides of your art.
- UPC codes must meet minimum size for scanability requirements (not smaller than 80%)
- Gradients and images should have a 1% minimum value.
  - If an element drops off to zero, **Flextreme Plus®** screening will be recommended.
- Each of the following elements should be on a separate layer in the file:
  - Dieline
  - Varnish
  - Whites (built as a spot color and named "Spot White")
- Determine the number of colors to be used on the design while keeping in mind the capabilities of the printer. Create the job using only that number of colors. Delete any colors from the swatch palette that are not going to be printed.
  - No Duplicate colors (i.e. - PMS 185 Red, PMS 185 and Pantone 185).
- Make sure UPC codes are ordered with the proper line width reduction with at least an 80% magnification. Bar height should be at least 5/8". Place or copy barcode in your file at 100% (DO NOT SCALE). Barcodes can not be a process build, multiple spot colors, a screen of any color or reversed out of any color(s). Please do not use jpeg or tiff formats, vector is preferred.
- Do not set type in Photoshop if at all possible, Illustrator yields much better results. All copy should be vector **@min. 4pt size**. Please provide fonts used in the job. You may also embed or outline the fonts but be aware that fonts converted to outline are no longer live type and are non-editable.
- The resolution of placed images needs to be at least two times the screen ruling. For example, if you are printing a 150 line screen the resolution of your placed image needs to be at least **300 DPI**, if printing a 175 line screen the resolution should be at least **350 DPI**.

### Minimum Standards:

**Rules:** .5pt (.007in.) • **Trap:** .75pt (0.0104i.n)

**Type: Positive:** 4 pnt sans serif, **Knocked Out:** 5pt. sans serif & 8 pt. serif

**Avoid using Transparencies: i.e. lighten, darken, multiply etc. in the transparency palette.**

Visit [www.trisoftusa.com](http://www.trisoftusa.com) to view the complete and detailed list of art requirements.

**Stuff or Zip ONLY the files necessary to produce your job. Be sure to embed or include all links and outline or include all fonts. Send via email, on-line file transfer platform (wetransfer) or upload to our Trisoft Web Connect system.**