



ARTWORK REQUIREMENTS

Guidelines for optimal screen printing results

Inks, Colors, and Shirts

- Include a color comp/proof of final print (CMYK mode)
- Ink and shirt color/s must be specified
- Use Spot Colors from our stock inks or Pantone Coated guide
- Ink colors shift on colored shirts; some need underlays
- Avoid Multiply blending mode for translucent overprinting

Vector Artwork (Illustrator)

- Make art to size
- Save in .AI or .EPS format, CMYK color mode
- Create Outlines on all fonts
- Convert all strokes to Outlines
- Each color on its own Layer is preferred
- Include all imported/placed images and graphic files
- Use Pathfinder instead of Clipping Masks

Typography and Line Weight

- Positive reading type: 8pt min (12pt for Metallic)
- Knocked-out text: 12pt min (16pt for Metallic)
- Positive reading lines: 1pt min (2pt for Metallic)
- Knocked-out lines: 2pt min (3pt for Metallic)

Raster Artwork (Photoshop)

- Make art to size
- Save in .PSD or .TIF format, CMYK mode (Grayscale for 1-color)
- Each color on its own Layer is preferred
- Resolution: 150-600dpi

Technical and Printing Specifics

- Let ARK determine halftone size and angle
- ARK not responsible for client-created halftone errors
- Proof-read all copy; ARK not responsible for spelling errors
- Avoid internet images when possible
- Press checks require scheduling; may incur fees

To Avoid Art Fees

- Make each file on its own Layer
- Convert all strokes to Outlines
- Use Pathfinder to keep shapes simple
- Convert 1-color designs to Grayscale mode

Need Assistance?

Our team is happy to help with any questions about preparing your artwork. Contact us if you're not familiar with the screen printing process.