

Crop Marks, Bleed & Safe Zone Guide

Crop marks

Crop Marks are thin lines placed on the corners of a document, image or artwork layout to indicate where the paper should be trimmed after printing. Crop marks are important for any artwork, especially if the design will bleed.

How much bleed should I give?

To have bleed on a document means that the printed design is intending to extend to one or more of the edges of the document. Bleed is typically required to extend 3mm or more past the crop marks. This ensures that when the document is trimmed, the design does go the very edge of the page. As printing is a manufactured process, slight variations in trimming are simply part of the process. If there is no bleed, the likelihood of having a white strip on the edge of the finished product is high.



How big should my safe zone be?

For the vast majority of our work, we use the industry standard on safe zones which is 3mm in from the finished edge on each side.

Colour guide

All print artwork must be saved as CMYK. CMYK ensures a high standard of print quality, and no variation of colour during the print process.

Finished artwork

Please supply finished artwork as a high quality PDF saved to CMYK, with 3mm bleeds and printer crop marks.





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