



Updated: June 20, 2025

ARTWORK SUBMISSION PROCESS: PRODUCTION GUIDELINES

DIELINES

A dieline file must be requested once the package dimensions have been finalized. This will indicate all dimensions, gussets, zippers, tear notches, hang holes, sealing lines and any other features that you have requested.

CREATING YOUR ARTWORK

Artwork must be created in Adobe Illustrator. Place your artwork on the Art layer, leaving all other layers intact. Be sure to review the *Artwork Submission Requirements* thoroughly before creating your art. Artwork created in other programs will cause file errors and delays in the proofing process.

ARTWORK SUBMISSION

If your artwork is not in an acceptable format as requested, it will be rejected. It is your responsibility to make the necessary changes and re-submit the artwork. Please see the *Artwork Submission Requirements* on the following pages for all details.

ELECTRONIC PROOF

We will provide an electronic proof of your artwork in PDF format. This proof must be reviewed and approved with a signature prior to your work being scheduled for production.

*INFORMAL ARTWORK REVIEW is not a mandatory step in production and is only used for us to become familiar with the proposed job and help the quotation process. At the time of informal review we do not evaluate or review artwork for production-readiness.



ARTWORK SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. FILE REQUIREMENT

- a. Artwork must be supplied on an official Rootree dieline.
- b. Artwork must be supplied in Adobe Illustrator native files or high- resolution PDF.
 - i. Adobe Illustrator - Provide one (1) file per design, including:
 1. Fonts outlined (or all fonts packaged and included with the file submission)
 2. Images embedded (or all images packaged and included with the file submission) - 300dpi at full size for optimal results
 - ii. High-Resolution PDF - Provide one (1) file per design, follow these specific output parameters to avoid extra Prepress charges in working with your supplied PDF:
 1. Colour space is CMYK.
 2. Document Raster Effect Settings set to High (300ppi or above).
 3. Export PDF: Press Quality preset, change version to Acrobat 6 (1.5).
 4. Ensure 'Preserve Illustrator Editing Capabilities' is checked.
 5. Ensure 'Create Acrobat Layers from Top Level Layers' is checked.
- c. All layers must be included – do not flatten any files.
- d. Ensure that no text or other elements are set with the 'overprint fill' or 'overprint stroke' attribute
- e. All text must be supplied 'outlined' (or as a 'live text' file with fonts packaged and included with the file submission)
- f. All image files should be embedded (or packaged and included with your file submission)

2. COLOURS

- a. Images must be created in CMYK colour mode - US Web Coated SWOP V2 (RGB colour mode is not supported)
- b. For spot colours:
 - i. Use only the Pantone Solid Coated colour book (PANTONE #### C)
 - ii. If Pantones from other colour books or custom spot colours are used, they will be automatically converted to a process CMYK colour.
 - iii. Percentages (Tint/Screen) of a PMS # cannot be colour matched.
 - iv. Do not use transparency or opacity effects with Pantone colours. These are screen representations only and cannot be replicated in print.
- c. Do not use any of the technical Spot Colours on the dieline for your artwork, if they are used, they will not be printed. These are:



- i. Dieline
- ii. Technical Info
- iii. Seal
- iv. Safety
- d. All transparent/window areas in the artwork must be clearly indicated and on a separate layer named "Window" or "Transparent"
- e. All metallic areas in the artwork must be clearly indicated and on a separate layer named "Metallics"
- f. White ink support may be required in order to achieve accurate colour representation on some substrates.

3. OTHER

- a. Rootree prints barcodes, QR codes and any other scannable codes as supplied and are not responsible for scan-ability. Customers are responsible for ensuring that supplied codes are scannable and register the proper result. To reduce the event of scanning issues, Rootree recommends all barcodes and QR codes be outlined vector art and scaled to no less than 85% of the original generated code.

DESIGN FEES

Rootree recommends enlisting the services of a professional graphic designer to ensure your artwork meets the requirements above. If artwork does not meet these requirements, our in-house team can make the necessary adjustments at the following hourly rates:

Pre-Press - \$150/hour

Adjust artwork to meet requirements for production readiness.

Graphic Design – Please call our Creative Department for pricing.

Make changes to existing artwork.



NOTES

1. It is the duty of the customer to ensure all artwork is checked thoroughly for any errors. Rootree is not responsible for reviewing content for spelling, or other errors.
2. During the printing, laminating, and converting processes, deviations are possible. Quality control processes are in place to identify and remove deviations that fall outside industry tolerances.
3. Due to the complexity of films and standard manufacturing practices, Rootree has a shift tolerance of 5mm. This applies to artwork, tear notches, valves, zippers, tin ties, seal widths, gussets and hang holes.
4. Due to cutting tolerances of 3mm, it is possible for products printed edge-to-edge to show an overlap of the design on the final product. If this is not acceptable, it is recommended to keep approximately 5mm of print-free space. Due to production limitations, it is possible for products which are printed edge-to-edge to show a small 3mm* break line with no colour, which will appear the same colour as the substrate. If this is not acceptable, it is recommended to keep approximately 5mm of print-free space.

*Exceptional conditions can lead to tolerances of 5mm

5. Due to printing variables, slight changes in colour may be present from one batch to the next; and in rare occasions, within a batch.
6. It is the responsibility of the customer to ensure that they are satisfied with the colours prior to production. If requested, film proofs can be provided in addition to the PDF proofs and must also be signed off by the customer.
7. Design fees must be paid in advance, prior to production-readiness, and it is the duty of the customer to ensure all artwork changes or adjustments are checked thoroughly for any errors.