



First Take

Film Based

Display Solutions

All Digital

File Prep Quick Guide

General Notes

- Clients should, without fail, supply a hard copy of all files to be printed.
- Colourgenics cannot be responsible for file content, including missing or incorrectly positioned type or elements.
- Always submit a copy of the final file. Ensure that your original final is safely kept.
- Include complete written instructions including file names, work to be done, exact final sizes, contact name and phone numbers in case of questions.
- Note the resolution recommendations for each device elsewhere in this guide.
- **Call us in advance to confirm compatibility of software versions.**

Image Files

- Image files prepared expressly for Colourgenics output should be supplied as RGB tiffs, MAC or PC, without LZW compression or extra channels.
- Existing files in CMYK are acceptable without conversion, except for our lprep categories.

Graphic Files

- Page layout or illustration files are commonly called vector files.
- All fonts must be included with the job. TrueType fonts are known to be problematic, while Type 1 Postscript fonts are a surefire. For illustration files, please convert fonts to outlines to avoid font issues.
- Use standard Pantone designations when specifying colour as much as possible. Custom eCMYK builds should be accompanied by a colour reference. Images linked to files should preferably be in RGB.

Note on resolution

Being in a digital form does not automatically guarantee that a file can be printed to any size. Quality is highly dependent on the integrity of the original file; files which are indiscriminately up-sampled often create more hardship at output, and as such we prefer files at their original resolution in most cases. Some moderate interpolation is acceptable, however, the best results are obtained by utilizing the sophisticated algorithms built into some of our devices. Colourgenics also uses special scaling software to create large output files on occasion.

Digital 35mm slides

- 9x6 (3:2) proportion • 300 pixels per inch • TIFF RGB 8-bit/channel • JPEG max quality is OK
- no channels or paths • embed your colour work space • maintain a 1/2" safety margin (at 6"x9") on the perimeter to accommodate cropping by plastic mount

LightJet 2080 Transparency Outputs

- Optimum input resolution from customers is 1016 pixels/inch. (1000 pixels/in. is acceptable). The LightJet 2080 will output at 2032 pixels/in. via hardware interpolation. If your file is less than 800 pixels/inch at final size, i.e. maximum 7.3"x9.2", we recommend output at Res 40, an equivalent of 1016 pixels/inch.
- Output-ready specs: TIFF RGB, flattened, no channels or paths, 1016 pixels/inch, max. 7.3"x9.2".