

Image Prep for LFPS

SETTING UP YOUR FILES

Images should be edited, sized, and ready to go when you show up for your printing appointment. Incorrectly set up files will result in the cancelation of your appointment, so before you bring your files into print, please prepare your images according to the following guidelines:

#1: The final **image size** is set to the *desired print size*.

This means that your file should already be saved to the size to which you want to print it. For instance, if your FILE was created as an 8"x10" document, but you wish to PRINT it as a 20"x24", you should save a copy of your file for that print size.

PHOTOSHOP: Image>Image Size> Type in your desired dimensions then select AUTOMATIC under the Resample menu. Note that you should lock your proportions so that your image is not visually stretched or compressed.

ILLUSTRATOR: Document Set Up> Edit Art Boards> Type in your desired dimensions. Note that you may need to resize your artwork to fit the new document size correctly.

#2: The image resolution is set to 300 pixels per inch (ppi).

This is the optimum print resolution for high quality image files. Anything less will result in a poor quality print. Please note that if you are working with a raster image and have to change your resolution to 300 from a lower resolution (ie 72ppi) the result may still be poor image quality.

PHOTOSHOP: Image>Image Size> Enter 300 in the Resolution box, then select AUTOMATIC under the Resample menu.

ILLUSTRATOR: Effect>Document Raster Effect Settings>Change resolution to High (300ppi)

#3: The file is set to RGB color mode.

This is the working color mode for our print software. As such our system some times has difficulty processing CMYK files correctly. For best results, please ensure your file is set to RGB.

PHOTOSHOP: Image>Mode>RGB Color

ILLUSTRATOR: File>Document Color Mode> RGB

#4: The file is flattened.

This speeds up the printing process, sending only the necessary information to the printer.

PHOTOSHOP: Layer>Flatten Image

ILLUSTRATOR: File>Print>Advanced>Select a flattening preset

#5: The file is saved as one of the following:

These are the only file types our printing software recognizes. TIFF and PSD files are the best option, since they will not compress or result in the loss of any information in your file.

.TIFF (Flattened)

.PSD (Flattened)

.JPG (least desirable)

PHOTOSHOP: File>Save As>TIFF/PSD/JPEG. If saving as a TIFF, select NONE under Image Compression. If saving as a JPEG, save for maximum quality.

ILLUSTRATOR: File>Export>Export As> TIFF/PSD/JPEG. If saving as a TIFF, select NONE under Image Compression. If saving as a JPEG, save for maximum quality.