



American Carton Company
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Digital File Preparation and Specifications

FILE FORMATS:

We accept files created with the following programs: Illustrator (preferred), InDesign, Photoshop. If you are using QuarkXpress, you must provide a PDF. For other applications, please call to discuss file formats before sending.

DESIGN REQUIREMENTS:

Create your artwork to the exact size of your box. Imported art files should be reduced or enlarged to final size before importing to final layout. Extend bleeds 1/8" outside the die line. Black text or lines should be 100% black. Please make sure all 4-Color process images are converted to CMYK as RGB images will not print. For images that were originally created in PhotoShop with layers, please include the layered file along with the final image. For reversed copy or text, please try to avoid thin, light or fine serif fonts and small point sizes when possible.

FONTS:

All fonts must be provided...even those used in embedded or EPS files. Please provide both the Screen and Printer elements if Adobe Type 1 fonts are used. If this is not possible, convert your type into paths / outline. For custom or registered fonts, please convert outline type before sending. If you convert text to paths or outline, please include an un-converted version of the file or document (this will make type alterations possible).

GRAPHICS:

All original graphic files - scans, imported artwork, placed artwork, linked files, esp. files, raster art, tiffs, etc. must be included with the art file. Eliminate all unnecessary elements in your files. Make sure the correct versions of all images are linked to their correct placement within the file.

UPC Codes:

All UPC codes must be placed at 100%.

(Bar codes can not be scaled.)

If the code is smaller or larger than 100% it must be created at the proper magnification.

All codes must be composed of 100% black or a dark spot color, not created with all four colors.

DROP SHADOWS:

Drop shadows will reproduce cleaner if they are created as black only whenever possible.

IMAGE RESOLUTION:

For best results, scans and/or images should be at least 300 dpi., and placed in document at 100%. It is acceptable to reduce the size of placed images, but do not enlarge over 110%. Exceeding 110% will create a soft or blurry appearance of the image. Do not compress these files. Any black line copy within a scan should be 100% black and not created with all four colors.

INKS:

All colors must be named with the correct Pantone name (Pantone C series). If color is to be printed as "spot" or extra colors, please be sure they have not been converted to CMYK.

Presses:

Komori Lithrone 640

Number of Colors available: 6

In line Blanket Aqueous Coating Unit.

Maximum sheet size: 40" x 28"

Minimum sheet size: 25" x 20"

Komori Lithrone 840

Number of Colors available: 8

In line Blanket Aqueous Coating and UV

Maximum sheet size: 40" x 28"

Minimum sheet size: 25" x 20"

Substrates Available:

Solid Bleached Sulfate, Solid Unbleached Sulfate, Clay Coated News Back, Tan Bending Chip,
Clay Coated Kraft Back, Poly Coated

Press Capabilities – Technical Information:

Trap thickness: 0.003 inches

* Minimum thickness required for positive printing rule- Across sheet: 0.25pt Print direction: 0.25pt

* Minimum thickness required for negative printing rule-Across sheet: 0.432pt Print direction: 0.432pt

* Recommended Minimum type size: Positive: 3pt Negative: 5pt

* Line screen: 150 & 175 Dot shape: Euclidean * Minimum dot: 3% * Maximum dot: 95%

* Depending on substrate choice.

UPC Information:

Minimum magnification factor for the UPC: 80

Bar width reduction required for the UPC:

mag 80 - .001

mag 85 - .0015

mag 90 - .002

mag 95 - .002

mag 100 - .0025

Bar Code Reader - RJS Inspector 3000