



What is involved in Preflighting

Definition: Preflight is the process of checking a document file to be certain it is ready for output to lithographic film, press plate material, digital copier or laser printer. The process verifies that all the elements necessary to accurately reproduce the document are correct and within the demanding specifications of the printing environment.

Not all preflight steps are required for all electronic documents. If you have any questions about any of these steps, our graphics professionals would be glad to discuss them with you.

HOW SUMMIT PRESS PREFLIGHTS YOUR DOCUMENT

1. Confirm that all fonts and graphics are included with the document, and that no images are "imbedded" in PageMaker or Illustrator.

2. Check that the size of the document as quoted is the same as the size of the document in the electronic file. (Check for bleeds and adjust as necessary.)

3. Check that the ink colors in the written job specifications are the same as the ink colors in the document. Check for inappropriate color spaces (RGB for all documents; CMYK in spot color documents; spot color in process documents).

4. In a multi-page document, check for page ordering (reader spreads vs. printer spreads).

5. Check each color item for trapping.

6. Check panel sizes in folded documents.

7. Open all raster images and check for appropriate color space.

9. Check resolution of raster images, both before and after scaling in layout program.

10. Check for presence and quality of clipping paths in raster images.

11. Check photos for color cast, dust and scratches. Evaluate overall quality of the image.

13. Open all Vector artwork and check for missing fonts or images.

14. Check Vector images for appropriate color space.

16. Check for trapping in Vector images.

17. Compare supplied laser prints or inkjet prints to document.

HELP US, HELP YOU- YOUR PREFLIGHT CHECKLIST

- The document page size dimensions are correct.
- No lines are thinner than .2 points.
- The status of all imported pictures is "OK".
- All unused style sheets and colors have been deleted.
- The pasteboard surrounding all pages is empty.
- Images for process color printing are CMYK EPS or TIF files.
- There are no RGB files
- All documents have been laser-proofed for typographical errors, and correct separation of elements.
- All printer and screen fonts to print document have been included.
- All images have been included.
- Final laser prints of all document pages have been included.

Remember, if you have any questions you can always call us at 817-334-0521.