

3M Scotchprint Output Guide Lines

Photographs

Resolution

A photographs resolution is a key factor for a quality scotchprint reproduction of an original. Using the formula below calculates a resolution needed by the original for a scotchprint reproduction. This formula is to be used for scanning or to determine if a stock digital photo has sufficient resolution for a quality reproduction.

$$(Output\ Size\ x\ Output\ Res) / (Original\ Size) = (Original\ Res)$$

(OUTPUT SIZE) - Photographs Scotchprint size

(OUTPUT RES) - Photographs Scotchprint resolution.

Below are recommended photograph Output resolutions based on the Output Size for the 3M Scotchprint system

Output Size	Output Res
24" x 36"	400 pixels/inches
48" x 72"	200 pixels/inches
72" x 96"	100 pixels/inches
96" x 144"	50 pixels/inches
Remaining	25 pixels/inches

(ORIGINAL SIZE) - Photographs scanning size

Note: Does not include the unused area of a scan or a stock digital photo. If a photo is (7") but the area used for output is (5") the "Original Size" is considered (5") as shown in the example below.

$$(200" wide x 25 Res) / (5" wide) = 1000 (pixels/inch)$$

(ORIGINAL RES) - Photographs scanning resolution

Note: If a stock digital photo has a lower resolution than what is needed for a quality reproduction, consider rescanning, if this is not an option, resample (no more than 15%) or use a lower Output Res (affects quality).

Digital Format

Photographs should be supplied in EPS format and CMYK color mode.

Note: When saving in EPS format select (Preview: 8bit / Encoding: binary)
Do not include: halftone, transfer & color management

Technical notes:

an "Original" plays a major role with scotchprint output quality. Keep in mind any digital photos that has been used for other print media may not always be suitable for Scotchprinting use. One reason for this are the large output size of most scotchprints will magnify any flaws of the original not noticeable when used for other print media.

Layout & Design notes:

When a Scotchprint consist of different design elements (photos, line art, text) Adobe Illustrator must be used to combine each element for layout purposes. Keeping each element in its native format is very important to the scotchprint process and Adobe Illustrator handles this very well. (Quark Express is not recommended, please do not use)

Adobe Illustrator notes:

When creating a document for scotchprinting, the resolution should be set for (800 dpi) this can be found under "document setup". Create your Document in 1:1 scale. If an output is larger than 120" wide than create in a 1:10 scale. Photos should be placed as a link in "EPS" format (do not embed photos) and are considered support files of the document. All line art and text should be pasted into document. When document is saved for output, create outlines for text and save file as an Illustrator (do not save as a Illustrator EPS) please provide any support files