



MONTEREY SIGNS
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Monterey Signs Digital File Specifications

Monterey Signs will make every effort to print your digital files in the most accurate and timely manner possible.

Correct preparation of digital files is crucial to timely delivery of your sign project. In order to assure you have properly prepared your files we have provided this document to you as guidance. Improperly prepared files may need additional formatting or modifications which may result in additional charges or delays.

The following are general guidelines that apply to all files submitted to Monterey Signs for digital printing.

- Always include complete written instructions including file names, contact name, and phone numbers.
- Send hard copies with PMS callouts (when necessary) or color guides with all orders. Without these, we are guessing at how a job should print.
- Avoid the use of file compressions such as JPEG or LZW. Most forms of compression compromise image quality and may take additional time and cost to print your file.
- Do not submit your only copy of any file. We are very, very good, but not perfect—accidents can happen. Please backup your file—it's cheap insurance.
- Make sure your name is on all discs, artwork, color guides, etc.

Storage and Digital Media

You can upload your file through our website www.MontereySigns.com or we accept the following media:

CD-Rom DVD Compact Flash

Recommended Software and Versions

- Adobe Illustrator CS2, with all placed files. Convert all fonts to outlines.
- Photoshop CS2, including all layers, paths, and channels.

If sending a PDF for output, preferences (set in the native program that created the PDF) must be set to “Print Quality” or “High Quality” output, and all fonts must be embedded. If fonts cannot be embedded, they should be converted to outlines prior to producing the PDF.

Output Of Layout File

Please include a hard copy (color or black and white) of each design you would like printed. It is not necessary to make this hard copy a specific size, but it should be proportional to the final output size. This will help us identify the contents of your disc and provide us the means to check for errors that may occur during file transfer.

Placed Graphics

Please provide any graphic elements from other application programs that have been “placed into position”. EPS files should not be embedded. Remove ALL Alpha Channels from any Photoshop links (TIFF, EPS, or PSD). Please save TIFF files with no compression.

High Resolution Images

All high-res or rastered images must be 300 DPI and must come into the layout at 100%. If you discover that you need to scale up the high-res file to achieve desired cropping, recreate the file at the appropriate size or scale it to size in Photoshop.

Color and Color Matching Requirements

Image color mode.

- Should be CMYK, not RGB.
- If your file is RGB, Duotone, Grayscale, or Bitmap please convert to CMYK. (Please note: color mode changes may produce unexpected and unacceptable color shifts that may not be detectable on your monitor).

Image File Formats.

- .tif (preferred)
- .eps
- .psd
- .jpeg or .gif are not recommended

Vector Files

- All colors should be identified as PMS call-outs
- Please specify both beginning and ending PMS colors for any graduated blends
- If PMS colors cannot be supplied, please provide a physical sample (color proof or swatch) to match.
- When creating a color tint with PMS percentages, make certain to note that it is a tint color. Tints of PMS color (PMS 485 at 45%, for example) are not understood by our printing software and will be printed at 100% of the PMS color specified. Any tints of PMS color should be converted to process before submitting your job.

Raster/Bitmap Files

- Please produce an acceptable quality color sample to match
- It is not necessary to provide a specific type of proof, but the proof that you provide should be considered acceptable for final color approval by the client.
- NOTE- Desktop inkjet printouts or color laser printouts are not recommended as color samples to match.