

Inkjet Job Checklist

Since print specifications for high-speed and specialty inkjet can be a little different from conventional offset, we've provided some guidelines to help you capture key points that will help you get good estimates as well as good results.

Below is a reference list of the criteria typically required.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Quantity

- Per job
- Expected total for all jobs
- Duration of contract (for program work)

Overview

- Finished page size
- Pages per finished piece
- Print one side or both (simplex or duplex)
- Number of paper stocks used
- Flat size (with bleeds)
- Trim size (without bleeds)

Project timing

- Date mailing is to be received by addressee
- Mail drop date
- Final art delivery date
- Date paper type and weight chosen

Ink coverage

- Specific low, medium, or high coverage (Total Ink Coverage or TAC)
- Note if spot color matching is required

Color matching

- Note if there is a target print sample to be matched
- Level of tolerance for match in number of ΔE^* (Delta E)

Variable data requirements

- Define variable data and/or images
- File format for data
- File format for images



Paper requirements

- GSM
- PPI
- Caliper, if relevant
- Finish: silk, matte, gloss, etc.

Finishing requirements

- Score, cut, trim, die cut
- Fixed perforation position
- Variable perforation specifications
- Folds needed
- Inserting
- Scoring
- Binding
- Matching
- Postcoating
- Foil/textured

Mailing requirements/special needs

- Water resistant
- No print show-through
- Scuff resistant

Target color space of design file

- GRACoL®, SWOP®, FOGRA, etc.
- Rendering intent used for CMYK **bitmap images**
- Are press simulation profiles available?

Type of proof required

- Soft proof (PDF)
- Simulation ICC requested for soft proofing (PDF)
- Simulation hard proof (proof from device other than production machine)
- Production color proof or "press proof" (proof from production machine with specific ink and paper)