

HOW TO CREATE A PRINT-READY FILE:

MULTI-COLOURED SCREEN PRINTED TOTE BAGS

The following instructions are designed to help you create a print-ready file.

If after reading them you are still unsure about anything, please download the template, request a professional File Check or contact customer support.

1 FILE FORMAT

Our systems can only process files in PDF format and in 1:1 scale (not password-protected).

2 COLOURS

With screen printing you can print **up to three predefined colours**, which you can choose when ordering.

The colours **cannot overlap or touch** (they must be at least 2 mm apart) and are already included in the list of swatches in the downloadable template.

Screen printing ink has excellent coverage, but it can appear slightly different on different materials. This is due to the material's physical composition and colour. The bags can be printed on the **front only, or double-sided, either with the same design on the front and back or different designs on the front and back.**

One-colour screen printing: this type of printing requires a vector file with just one layer for the artwork, using only the colour swatch selected when ordering, which can be found in the colour palette of the template you have downloaded.



 **WARNING:** the artwork must consist entirely of vector graphics. Gradients and reticulation cannot be used. If you have any doubts, we advise you request a Professional File Check.



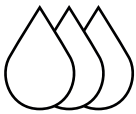
Two- or three-colour screen printing: this type of printing requires a vector file with two or three layers for the artwork, one for each colour, using only the colour swatches selected when ordering, which can be found in the colour palette of the template you have downloaded.

The artwork on the two layers must not overlap, and must be at least 2 mm apart to avoid slight registration problems causing the two colours to come into contact.

For printing with a different design on the front and back, there are two printing options available:


- front and back have the same design but in different colours
- front and back have a different design and different colours, a maximum of two or three in total depending on the option you chose when ordering.

WARNING: the artwork must consist entirely of vector graphics. Gradients and reticulation cannot be used. The number of colours used on the front and the back combined must match the number you chose when ordering. If you have any doubts, we advise you request a Professional File Check.




3 colours


The designs must not overlap, and must **be at least 2 mm apart**




NO: colours overlap




YES: 2 mm gap




NO: 3 colours on the front + 3 colours on the back = 6 colours




YES: 3 colours front + back = 3 colours



Same artwork, colours inverted



Same artwork, 2 colours front + 1 colour back



Different artwork on front and back

Different print on **front and back**

3 FONTS AND PATHS

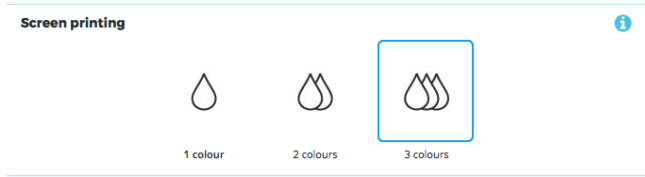
Fonts should be embedded in the PDF or converted into curves/outlines. The minimum font size (below which we cannot guarantee perfect print quality) is **20 pt**. The minimum printable line weight is **2 pt**.

4 TEMPLATE

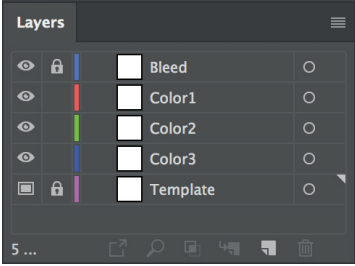
To create a print-ready file, **download the template generated by the website**: you will find the available colour swatches and the layers on which to position your artwork pre-prepared, with one layer for each print colour chosen when ordering. For example, if when ordering you chose "two-colour screen printing", the template will contain two layers.

Position your artwork on the layers, dividing it up into different colours: each layer should only contain one colour. Remember to leave at least 2 mm between the two different colours.

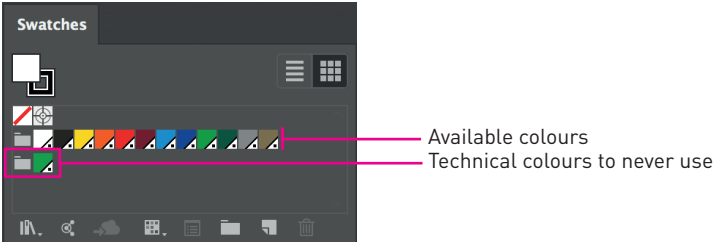
Printing type
(in this example, "Three-colour screen printing")



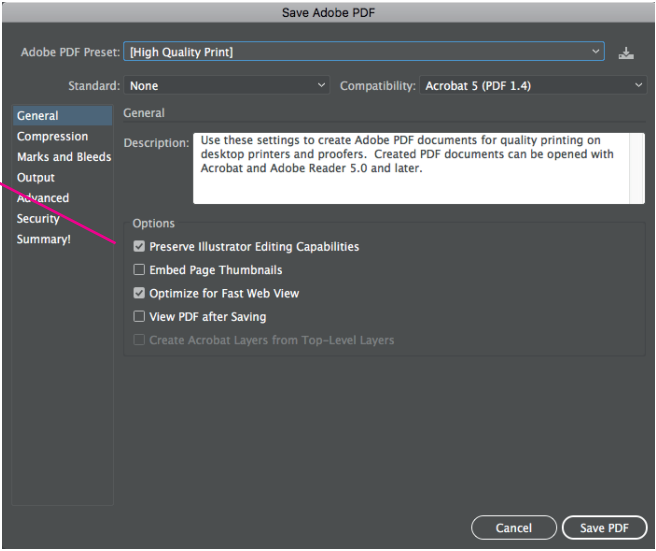
Layers on the template
(three in this case, one for each colour selected when ordering)



Available colour swatches
(in this case, having selected "Three-colour screen printing", you can choose any three of the 11 available)



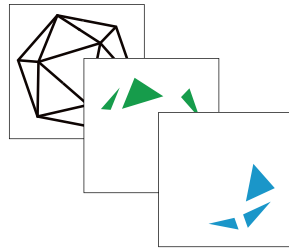
Save the PDF, keeping the layers separate



GOOD TO KNOW - Screen printing



DOWNLOAD
THE TEMPLATE



ENTER EACH COLOUR
ON A DIFFERENT LAYER



DELETE ALL GUIDELINES
except the green line



SAVE THE PDF IN LAYERS

PRINTED RESULT



PDF



CMYK



FOGRA 39



Do not alter the scale of the drawing or resize the template.



FURTHER INFORMATION

The screen printing technique used to produce these boxes provides superior quality and definition compared to digital printing (the reticulation effect often seen with digital printing is not an issue with screen printing). The ink used for screen printing guarantees precise details, excellent coverage, an even result and vivid colours. Up to four colours can be printed, which cannot overlap. Screen printing comprises three stages. The first stage involves creating a film for each colour (A), with the areas to print in pure black. The second stage is photoengraving the screens: these consist of a frame that holds a piece of fabric in tension (B), onto which a water-soluble photo emulsion is spread (C). Once the screen has been prepared, it is photoengraved using the film prepared earlier (D). The photo emulsion only hardens where the film is transparent, not where it is coloured black. The screen is then washed, which only removes the non-printed photo emulsion from the screen, leaving the negative of the artwork from the film. In the final stage, ink is spread onto the screen (E). The ink only passes through in the areas where the photo emulsion was washed away, giving the coloured area a precise edge (F).

