

# FILE & DIELINE SETUP GUIDE

## HOW TO SET UP YOUR FILE FOR PRINT

- 1 Be sure to **DELETE** any hidden layers that are not intended to print (ie: setup guide layers or other hidden artwork layers) to ensure no risk of them appearing on the final print.
- 2 It is best to try to avoid using borders in your design. If a border is too close to the trim, the trim may be slightly off-center.
- 3 File must consist of 1/8" bleed and all important art and text must be within the safety margin (1/8" inside of the outline). The more safety margin the better (to avoid awkwardly close trims or having critical elements from getting cut off).
- 4 Ensure that your PDF is high res and that all images are CMYK at 300 DPI.
- 5 Outline all fonts. Any fonts not outlined runs the risk of printer errors.
- 6 For best colour results, supply a CMYK only file (unless your product type specifically requires RGB color mode or specifically requires you to supply PMS colors).

## FILE SET UP EXAMPLE

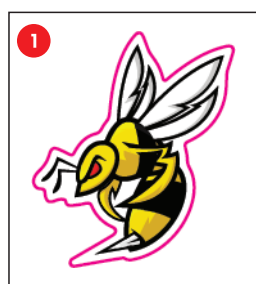


- Bleed
- CUT Line
- - - Safety

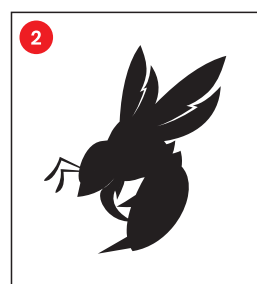
## SPOT COLOUR SET UP (WHITE AND SPOT GLOSS)

Please submit two PDF files:

- 1 Regular full color artwork (including any dielines)
- 2 Spot UV template indicating the area of the SPOT



CMYK Artwork



Spot File

On the spot file, indicate the spot areas by using 100% K. Non-spot areas should be white. For best results, ensure this file is vector.

If you require the entire sticker to be completely covered, the corresponding page in your template file should be entirely filled with 100% K

## ACCEPTED FILE TYPES\*

- 1 .ai (Adobe Illustrator document)
- 2 .eps (Encapsulated PostScript)
- 3 .svg (Scalable Vector Graphic)
- 4 .pdf (Portable Document Format)

\*All raster images should be embedded into the above files

## WHAT IS A DIELINE

A dieline is a visual representation of how the print object is to be cut out as part of the finishing process. A dieline is usually recommended for projects with a custom shape. It indicates exactly how to cut the file.



no dieline

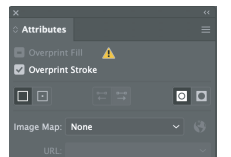
with dieline

## HOW DO I CREATE A DIELINE?

Creating a dieline is simple. A dieline should be a stroke in a spot color that is named exactly "CUT". This should be on a separate layer from the artwork, but in the same file.

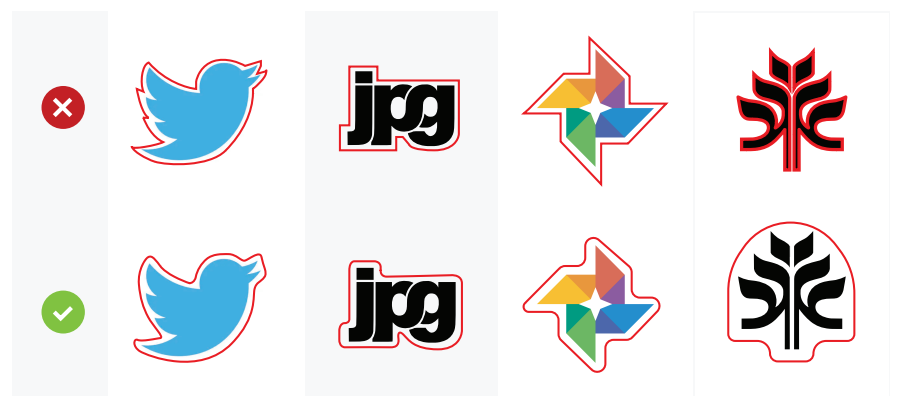
Sticker Bee Factory recommends using **Adobe Illustrator** to create files that contain dielines. Here is a quick tutorial on how to create dielines with Illustrator.

- 1 In Illustrator create a new layer and call it "CUT".
- 2 Select the Dieline layer and create a stroke using the **shape tool** or the **pen tool** to outline the shape of the design.
- 3 Once the outline is complete, select the shape, and in the color swatches panel create a new color.
- 4 Make sure that the color name is set to "CUT" (with that exact spelling and capitalization) and the color type is set to spot color.
- 5 Make sure that the color you just created is added to the object as a stroke color with no fill color.
- 6 Select the object again and go to the attributes panel to make sure that overprint stroke is checkmarked.  
\*\*If you do not have an attribute window on the left panel, go to "window" on the top menu and then select "attributes". The attributes window should now pop up.
- 7 Once the stroke is defined as a spot color named "CUT" and is set to overprint, save or export the file as a **high-resolution PDF or AI file**.



## GOOD AND BAD DIELINE EXAMPLES

Clean designs with large, smooth, and round contours work best for dielines. We recommend avoiding small, sharp, complex cuts. We will try our best to cut based on your dieline; however, we may request that you revise it for better cut results.



## DIELINE CHECKLIST

- The dieline is on its own layer
- The dieline is a spot color called exactly "CUT"
- The overprint of the dieline is on
- The dieline is a stroked vector object (no fill) that can be deleted