

5th colour.
artwork tips.

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5th Colour. artwork tips

We're all about making the process smooth — and it starts with the artwork. Good files help us deliver the quality you're expecting, on time and without the back-and-forth. Think of it as a handball - your design, our production, working together to kick goals. These tips just help keep things clear, consistent, and looking sharp.

And of course, if you need a hand - just reach out. We've got design options available to help take care of those file headaches.

We work to Australian print standards - here's what that means:

- File format: High-res PDF with fonts outlined and images embedded
- Bleed: Minimum 3mm bleed on all sides
- Safe zone: Keep important content 5mm inside the trim edge
- Colour: Use CMYK only — no RGB or spot colours unless pre-approved
- Resolution: Minimum 300dpi for all images and artwork
- Black text: Use 100% K black (not rich black) for small/type elements
- Rich black: For large fills, use C60 M40 Y40 K100 for solid coverage
- Layers: Flatten your artwork — no editable or hidden layers
- Crop marks: Include if possible (we can work without them if bleed is set)

File Setup Notes:

- Covers: Supply as spreads (e.g. A3 for an A4 landscape cover)
- Text pages: Supply as single pages, not spreads
- Spine widths: For burst bound books, contact us for spine width based on page count and stock — we'll calculate it for you
- Booklets: If supplying as spreads (e.g. saddle-stitched), make sure they're imposed correctly or ask us to set it up