

Device Guidelines

These are suggestions for color mode, printable area, and PPI requirements for our output devices. Before you begin to size your scans, determine the smallest acceptable scan resolution requirements for the device.

Exceeding the suggested PPI could result in a file too large to output or additional megabyte charges. Save time and expense by testing the procedures that you will follow from start to finish.

<i>OUTPUT DEVICES</i>	<i>MEDIA SIZE</i>	<i>PRINTABLE AREA</i>	<i>DEVICE AVAILABLE DPI</i>	<i>SUGGESTED PPI AT FINAL DIMENSIONAL SIZE</i>	<i>DEVICE COLOR MODE</i>
Digital Color Lasers	8.5 x 11	8 x 10 .5	600	150 -200	CMYK
Digital Color Lasers	11x 17	10.5 x 16.5	600	150-200	CMYK
Digital Color Lasers	12 x 18	11.5 x 17.5	600	150 -200	CMYK
Fuji 3500 Color Photo Prints	8.82 x 12	8.55 x 11.75	400	320	RGB
Fuji 4000 Color Photo Prints	12.4 x 18.3	12 x 8	400	267	RGB
Colorspan DM8 6000 Posters	60" wide	59.5" wide	1200	100-150	CMYK
HP5000UV Posters	60" wide	59.5" wide	1200	100-150	CMYK
Indigo Digital Offset Color Press	12 x 18	11.125 x 17.125	812	300	CMYK
Heidelberg Digital Offset Color Press	12.375 x 18.125	11.125 x 17.125	1270	300	CMYK
35mm (4k) Film Imaging	1 x 1.5	36 x 24 mm	4000 L.	1500-2000	RGB
4x5 (8k) Film Imaging	4 x 5	3.5 x 4.375	8000 L.	3000-4000	RGB

Considerations for scans, file size, and resolution

When preparing your scans, remember that a higher scan resolution does not always result in better print quality. Excessive scan sizes result in huge files that extend print times with little improvement in print quality.

Vector-based graphics are suitable for type and logo, even when they are scaled to larger sizes. However, when you increase the size, any included raster images must have a proper resolution for the final dimensional print size. Because the number of pixels in an image is fixed increasing the size of a raster image decreases its resolution, and decreasing its size increases its resolution.

Terms to Understand

Pixels per inch (ppi) - Pixels are the individual elements that make up a digital file.

Dots per inch (dpi) - A measure of output resolution rendered by monitors and printers.

Perceptual Maximum Resolution - The resolution beyond which you visually experience no appreciable gain in the printed output.