

COLOR DEPOSITING DESIGN GUIDELINES

Dear Designer,

Color depositing is a very unique process. Using this technology we are able to accurately and consistently portray color on paper in nearly any shape. The unique nature of color depositing presents some challenges that need to be addressed in the design stages of your project. To that end, the following illustrations will help clarify some of the issues we have regarding color deposit size, shape, and proximity, paper stock, sheet size, number of colors, and other production considerations. Please consider this a general guideline since there are times when we can find a way to accommodate your specific design even if it seems to be in conflict with these specifications.

1. MINIMUM DEPOSIT AREA

The minimum area which we can deposit is determined by the .200" (14.5pt) clearance hole that must be drilled inside each depositing cell.

This can be easily visualized in an illustration program as follows:

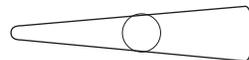
- draw a circle 14.5pt wide x 14.5pt tall with a stroke of .25pt and a fill of none
- drag this circle inside each deposit outline
- the circle should fit clearly within the deposit outline without touching the edges
- note that the clearance hole does not necessarily need to be in the center of the deposit area



clearance hole centered in deposit area



deposit area is too narrow



center of deposit is too narrow so...



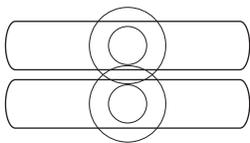
...we move the clearance hole to the wider side

2. MINIMUM DEPOSIT SPACING - VALVE DIAMETER

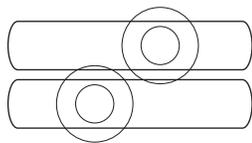
The valves which we use are approximately .400" (29pt) in diameter. This determines how closely the valves can be placed and indirectly, how close together deposits can be.

Again, this is easily visualized in an illustration program as follows:

- draw a .400" diameter circle with the same center as the .200" clearance hole from step 1
- group the two circles and drag copies to the deposit areas just as in step 1
- the larger diameter circles should not overlap
- not that it is not necessary for the large diameter circle to lie completely within the deposit area, only the smaller clearance hole must meet this requirement



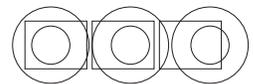
In this case, the valves are interfering with each other and could not be oriented as shown...



...so we offset the valves as shown here



The rectangular deposit areas shown here can be done by placing the valves slightly off center...



right side clearance hole is not inside deposit area



valve clearance insufficient

...however, the addition of another deposit area makes this layout impossible

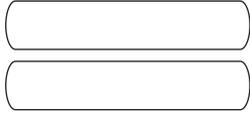


P R O C E S S , I N C .

Showcasing Your Product with Color

3. MINIMUM DEPOSIT SPACING - VENT PURPOSES

The last consideration in sizing and locating color deposits is the proximity of one deposit edge to another. We prefer 1/16" space between deposits however if the deposits do not share a long (over 1") common edge, we can use 1/32".



1/16" between deposits
with long common edge



1/32" between deposits
with short common edge

4. PAPER STOCK

Color depositing is extremely sensitive to the type of paper stock used. In fact, many stocks are *impossible* to deposit. Even stock that worked at one time may subsequently not work due to subtle changes in the paper that are not well-publicized by the mill.

For this reason, it is important that we agree on specific paper and adhere to this specification. We can recommend stock that we guarantee will work or, if you wish to use a specific paper, we would be happy to test it for depositability.

Most of our work is done on 111# Job Parilux c2s gloss cover. The caliper of the stock is less important than the characteristics of the base paper and coating, i.e. porosity and holdout.

5. PRESS CAPACITIES (approximate)

Maximum feedable sheet size: 22 1/4" x 28"

Maximum deposit area: 20" x 24"

Maximum number of colors: 195

Gripper margin (auto feed): approx. 1 1/4" to edge of deposit along *short* side of press sheet (Note that this is for the color deposits only and that printing can extend to the edge of the sheet - our gripper leaves no mark)

Gripper margin (hand feed): approx. 1/4"

The measurements above are approximations and serve as good starting points. If you are planning to supply us with printed sheets, we ask that you involve us early in the project so we can look at the specific design and verify that the layout and position can be accommodated by our equipment.

There are occasions when the "rules" above can be bent. If your project does not conform to the limitations above, we encourage you to contact us with specifics so we can see if we can produce the project for you.

5. MISCELLANEOUS

The color spots can be nearly any shape, although there is some limit to the amount of fine detail that can be achieved. It is difficult but not impossible to reverse out of a deposit with limited detail. Colors can be diecut, embossed, overprinted, or foil stamped. We can engrave extra spots in a plate and simply not use them. This is especially useful if you anticipate adding colors to your product line that you may wish to show on subsequent reprints. Spots cannot be added to an existing plate..

We cannot put color deposits on a non-porous substrate. This includes synthetic paper, most highly calendered stocks, UV or aqueous coatings, or solid ink coverage. We can deposit over relatively light halftones (as a general rule, less than 40% total ink).

It is sometimes possible to trap deposits into knockouts of solid coverage. The amount of trap will depend on the specific design but will generally be less than 1pt. This close tolerance may require hand-feeding.

To assure accurate register, we prefer to trim our own press sheets.

Our other production capabilities include screenprinting, letterpress printing, foil stamping, embossing, diecutting, and folding/glueing.

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