



When screen printing, NGF uses UV compact disc inks to print all CDs/DVDs we manufacture. Screen printing is unlike any other form of printing such as offset or flexo, so certain criteria must be met in the CD/DVD design to assure our clients of the maximum print quality possible.

Artwork Specs

- Any color from the Pantone Color Formula Guide as well as the Pantone Metallic, Fluorescent, and Pastel Color Guides can be reproduced. Up to 5 colors can be printed, including a 1-color background. **If printing 4-color process, more brilliant colors can be achieved by utilizing a solid white background.** All custom colors should be accompanied by a client supplied and approved sample for print matching purposes.
- Minimum type size for positive printing is 5 points.
- Minimum type size for reverse and knockout printing in solid PMS colors is 6 points.
- Minimum type size for a reverse and knockout in 4-color process printing is 7 points (2.1 mm or 0.083").
- Minimum rule or line width is 1 point (.35mm or 0.014").
- We strongly recommend that you avoid all script typefaces as well as type with thin serifs, especially for type that knocks out or is a 4-color build. Small type size and highly serified typefaces tend to close up and result in text that may be difficult to read.
- Depending on your design, better results will be achieved by underprinting a solid white flood background (white donut). Be aware that art will appear silver in any areas where image completely knocks out of the background if you don't underprint a color such as white.

Applications (Mac or PC)

QuarkXPress
Adobe PageMaker
Adobe Illustrator
Macromedia FreeHand
Adobe Photoshop
CorelDraw

Media Formats

CD-R / CD-RW / DVD-R
100MB & 250MB ZIP cartridge

Tonal Ranges and Vignettes

All tonal ranges for halftones and process color breakdowns should be between 15–85%. It is recommended that vignettes (color areas where a solid tint gradually fades to a lighter tint) having large tonal ranges (ex: 100% to 0% graduation) be avoided in a CD design. This will sometimes result in hard lines and "tonal jumps" in the gradient color area instead of a smooth, gradual fade as desired. Also, color matching in these areas can be more difficult.

Mirror Band / ID Ring

Any print over the CD's mirror band or ID ring area (45mm–38mm) without white underprint will suffer loss of color opacity due to lack of metallization on the disc in this area. Printed color in this ID ring area may not be consistent with color on the rest of the disc.

Scanned Image Resolution

Any bitmapped images contained in the file should be at a scanned resolution of 1.5 to 2 times the printed line screen ruling. For four or more printed colors, the line screen would be 100 lpi. Three or less printed colors will be produced at 85 lpi. Anything less than the recommended screen ruling could affect the quality of the final printed produce. As a note, 100 lpi and 85 lpi are generally lower than standard offset printing, so highly detailed images should be avoided.