ARTWORK PREPARATION
flexo corrugated print

To ensure accuracy, The BoxMaker upholds the following preparation procedures:

ACCEPTABLE FILE FORMATS

The BoxMaker accepts the following file formats:

- **.ai** – *Adobe Illustrator Document*
- **.eps** – *Encapsulated Postscript*
- **.pdf** – *Portable Document Format*

The following file formats are also accepted, but may require extra setup time or art charges:

- **.psd** – Adobe Photoshop Document (dieline *must* be on separate layer)
- **.indd** – Adobe InDesign Document

File formats other than those referenced above will require rework of the graphics and additional art charges. If you are limited to using any of these programs, please consult with our Art Department.
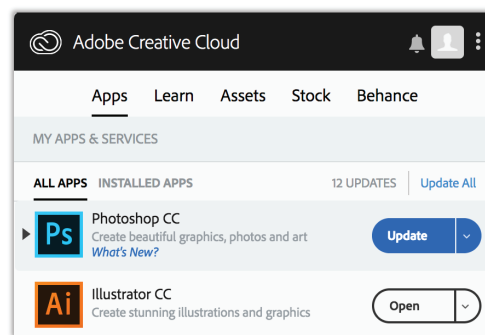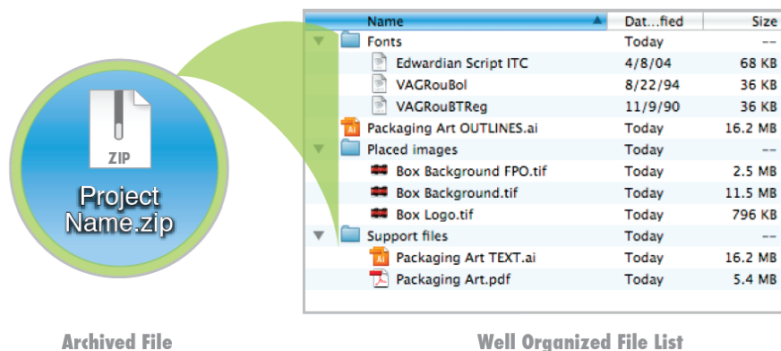

Helpful Tip:

- *Make sure your software is fully updated to avoid conversion errors.*

MAKE A LIST AND CHECK IT TWICE

Organize all files so that it is easily understood by someone unfamiliar with your project.

All file names should describe contents of the files:

Archived File   Well Organized File List

FLEXO CORRUGATED GRAPHIC GUIDELINES

To limit excessive art charges, please consider the following guidelines before creating new packaging graphic files:

Add Structure to Your File

✅ If you are creating new art for an old design, please verify that the display or package size has not been changed; often structures are revised which could affect the placement of your new art.

Placed Graphics

✅ Always place graphics at 100%.

Get Out of Embedding

✅ Avoid embedding support graphics into layout files. Always supply the additional support graphics, ensuring the "links" have not been broken. A broken link may be caused by a missing file, renaming a file or a corrupt file. All support images must be high resolution, based upon the size in the layout file.

Control Your Colors

✅ GCMI ink is the standard for corrugated flexo print. If a specific PMS color is required, an ink-drawdown will be provided for approval prior to the art proof.

UPC's & Barcodes

✅ There are special guidelines for Barcodes. Please refer to our Barcode Basics.

Screen Values

✅ Minimum 35 LPI @ 5% and Maximum 50 LPI @ 35%.

Stay Away from the Lines

✅ For non-diecut styles, graphics must be at minimum 1/2-inch away from all dieline edges and scores. For diecut items, graphics must be at least 1/8-inch inside any score or cut lines or bleed over 1/8-inch. For some artwork, 1/4-inch may be preferred. Graphics cannot land directly at the score lines due to machine registration.

Use Your Layers

✅ **Dieline Layer:** Your structural file will contain a locked layer containing the dieline artwork. Please create a new layer to insert your artwork. The structural drawing will contain spot colors for the cut and score lines in the swatch menu. Do not delete these swatches or convert them.

✅ **Layers:** Use layers when building your graphics file whenever possible. They make your file easier to understand and allow us to make any needed adjustments more efficiently.

Trapping

✅ **Trapping**: Minimum trapping, overprint or bleed, is .125".

✅ **Registration:** Tolerance between colors is +/-1/16" and +/- 1/8" depending on individual machine tolerances. Contact your Sales Representative for specific details on your project.

Fonts

✅ If there are any possible verbiage changes, it is imperative to supply the font files. Please proofread all text carefully. We are not financially responsible to correct client supplied typos.

Text:	Minimum text size for positive text: 8 pt.* Minimum text size for reverse text: 12 pt.*
Lines:	Minimum thickness for positive lines: 1.5 pt. Minimum thickness for reverse lines: 2 pt.

*Point size may need to be larger or bolder based on fonts chosen.

FTP – SEND IT ON IT'S WAY

We have an FTP site available where you can upload your files, or we can download from your FTP site (please email our art department your FTP address, username and password as well as a low res JPG or PDF for layout reference). When sending files via FTP, it is best to compress several files into one archive file.

Please note: It is imperative for you to retain a copy of the original file, especially if you plan on reordering the design, in the distant future. We generally keep files active for one year and archived for up to 3 years.