SPRINTPAPA

How to create a die-cut line?

This tutorial will show you step by step how to make a die line around the artwork you need to either cut or kiss cut or any other operations.

1. Open your artwork in Adobe Illustrator to create a dieline around the flower below.



2. Select the pen tool and draw a path around your artwork on a separate layer. Name the layer die-line. Set the stroke color to a PMS color from the swatches and stroke thickness to .25 pt.



Note: The die line can be used for kiss cutting or thru-cutting. So the color of the dieline and layer will be different for each product. Please download the correct template and follow those instructions. 3. Select Object > Path > Offset Path. Set the Offset value.



Example 1:

If you want white border around the artwork set the offset value to 0.125. Your die-line will be created 1/8" away from the artwork. Now delete the manually drawn outline around your artwork.

Example 2:

If you don't want the white border around the artwork but need a full bleed, set the offset value to -0.125.

4. **IMPORTANT:** Please have your dieline to be as smooth as possible otherwise the outcome might differ with complex intricate cuts. Also additional charges may apply for such intricate shapes.



To make the corners smooth, select the die line and select the direct selection tool and if you are using the latest version of illustrator, you will see the "live corner widgets" to adjust the curvature as much as you want. Just hold the widget and simply drag.



5. Set the stroke thickness to 0.25pt. Now your die-line is ready.



6. Save as PDF and choose Illustrator default settings.

