



General Guidelines

- Set up your two-color job as a composite workflow rather than a separated workflow. Once the files are separated, it is difficult, costly and time-consuming to make them composite again. Therefore, if you want to see composite color proofs, Maple-Vail must receive composite files.
- As a general rule, set 100% black to overprint the second color. If two spot colors are used, set the darker color (which is usually the text color) to overprint.
- Make sure that you have only used two colors. In addition, verify that all elements (art) are set up as only two colors.
- When defining spot color, make sure that only one spot color name has been defined throughout your book, and that it is identified exactly the same way each time.
- If an item is intended to knock out rather than overprint, mark each item clearly with that information.
- If a screen (black or color) is on top of the second color screen, be sure to set the background item to knock out with a default trap of .144 points.
- We recommend submitting test files for two-color jobs, especially if you are unfamiliar with creating them.
- Do not use DCS images since they are already color-separated.

Important Note:

- Prior to sending the files, be sure that you have approved your overprint and dropout set-up of your files. The best way to do this is by pulling a set of separated laser proofs from your desktop publishing application. Go through each page and each element to verify that all are set up properly.

Second Color Options

We recommend setting up all two-color jobs with black as the first color and process cyan or magenta as the second. However, if using Pantone colors, do not mix both Pantone and process-defined colors.

Note: Be aware that when a specified PMS color is printed on our proofing device, the color will be simulated by combining process colors rather than using the actual PMS color. The result will not match exactly what will be printed on press.

Proofing Options

Maple-Vail will support the following file types for production of two-color files when the customer requires ***composite digital proofs***:

1. Composite PostScript Files defined with process colors
2. Application files in Quark, PageMaker and InDesign
3. Composite PDF defined with process colors

Maple-Vail will support the following file types for production of two-color files when the customer requires ***separated two-color digital proofs***:

1. Separated PostScript files
2. Application files in Quark, PageMaker and InDesign
3. Composite PostScript files defined with Pantone colors
4. Separated PDF files