

the Stranger

PRODUCTION GUIDELINES

DEADLINES

All ads arriving in finished form should be delivered no later than Friday at 5:00 pm. Materials for ad builds (text, show listings, images) should also arrive no later than Friday at 5:00 pm. Anything submitted after this deadline is subject to space availability (unless a previous arrangement has been made with your advertising representative).

DELIVERY

- *The Stranger* accepts electronic files on CD ROM and by e-mail. E-mail ads directly to your *Stranger* sales representative.
- Also, PLEASE ensure that the subject line of your e-mail includes the name of the advertiser and the date the ad is to run.
- Ads produced outside of *The Stranger* should be sent to us as complete digital files. Please build the ad to the exact size (see size sheet for dimensions), with no crop marks, color key, or excess white surrounding the image area. Ads are force-fit to their bounding box on the page, therefore any ads that do not conform to our sizes will suffer some distortion.

APPLICATION-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

These are file types we accept, in order of preference:

ACROBAT FILES (PDF) – These files must be in their final version, since we cannot make any changes to them.

- Files distilled through Acrobat Distiller from a postscript file are higher quality and allow more control than those saved or exported as PDF from a native application.
- Your settings in distiller should be PDFX1a.
- Embed all fonts, or convert text to outlines. If the PDF arrives with missing fonts, we will rasterize the ad, which may impact the print quality.
- Black & white ads: make sure all images in the file are greyscale.
- Full color ads: must be 4-color CMYK process and NOT RGB.

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- Spot color ads must be built as a 4-color process.

ADOBE ILLUSTRATOR – Please be sure to **OUTLINE** all the fonts and include all linked **IMAGES** with these files.

ADOBE INDESIGN – Include all **FONTS** and **IMAGES** or export the file to eps with all fonts **OUTLINED**.

PHOTOSHOP – Please send flattened artwork in tiff format at 300 dpi.

IMAGE QUALITY, RESOLUTION, AND COLOR SPECIFICATIONS

- All artwork should be at least 200 dpi; 300 dpi is preferred for finished ads.
- Color ads should be built in **CMYK**, rather than built in **RGB** and converted to **CMYK**. The conversion process tends to create high ink densities that do not print well, particularly in the blacks (see below).
- Our maximum ink density is 220. While applications will allow you to build images to a density of 400, such a high value will not absorb properly into newsprint, causing bleeding and offsetting of the ink into areas not intended.
- Fine lines and small type may be in color, but should use as few inks as possible. For complex color type, we recommend using heavier type that can more easily survive small variations in registration.
- The same applies for reversed type (white type on a black or color background). Blacks should be created as 100% **K**, or **K** plus one other color. Never create a black out of all four colors.

THE STRANGER CANNOT GUARANTEE EXACT COLOR MATCHING OR PERFECT REGISTRATION.