



Foil Stamp Tips and Guidelines:

TOP THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- All inks and coatings must be free of waxes, TEFLON, and silicone. CFP does not recommend printing with wax inks and sealing them with a wax free aqueous.
- Do not reverse out ink and coatings where foil is to be placed. This could cause registration problems.

COATINGS or LAMINATION:

- Do not stamp on UV coating. Most U.V. coatings do not accept foil stamping. CFP recommends that foil stamping be applied **prior** to U.V. coating. If the nature of the project at hand dictates that foil be applied on top of U.V. coating, *please contact your CFP representative immediately*. He or she will guide you through the testing process to ensure your project will be a success.
- Alert your CFP representative if your project will be film laminated. Special lay-flat lamination may be required and all film must be AGS type.

TYPESETTING, SOLIDS, FINE LINES, & LAYOUT CONSIDERATIONS:

- Large solid areas of foil should be avoided.
- Avoid small bold type fonts when foil stamping. The middle of lower-case letters may fill-in. For example, compare the font this guideline is composed in (Calibri 12pt) to this font (Franklin Gothic Heavy 12pt). This is an extreme example, but pay special attention to the middle of the lower case “e”s and “a”s. Sometimes picking a font with open letters can make all the difference.
- Any font smaller than 8 pt. should be avoided when foil stamping.
- When quoting foil stamping, be sure to show your CFP representative any sample art and layout diagram(s) you may have. Your representative may have layout suggestions that will decrease your quoted price and increase your chances of winning the bid.

INK CONSIDERATIONS:

- Avoid stamping on top of metallic inks.

FOILS & LASER PRINTERS or DIGITAL PRINTED SHEETS:

- Alert your CFP representative when producing foil stamped materials intended for laser imprinting at a later date as special 'laser resistant' foils may be required. Use caution when selecting dry, textured parchment and recycled stocks because the low adherence properties can cause the foil to release, crack, peel, or dull under the extreme heat. It is always best to ask your foil stamper for a test sheet for you to run through the printer.
- Alert your CFP representative if your project will be stamped over digitally printed sheets. Not all digital ink technologies will accept foil. If in doubt, ask your foil stamper to test your sheets before committing to a production run.

SCRATCH-OFF FOIL:

- There should be no varnish in stamped area
- Although not always necessary, it is always a good practice to screen image to 80 percent to prevent ink from showing through
- For digitally printed sheets, see previous section. Furthermore, we have experienced that some digital ink technologies will show through scratch-off foil.

OVERPRINTING of FOIL:

- Please refer to CFP's 'Overprinting of Foil Guidelines' document