

CONDÉ NAST

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**Condé Nast Traveller
GQ
House & Garden
Tatler
The World of Interiors
Vanity Fair
Vogue**

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Revised April 2026

including:

**GUIDELINES ON HOW TO CREATE A PDF FILE BASED ON
GHENT WORKFLOW STANDARDS**

(All presets available from Ghent Workflow Group, gwg.org)

Ad Delivery via Specle:

adportal.condenast.co.uk

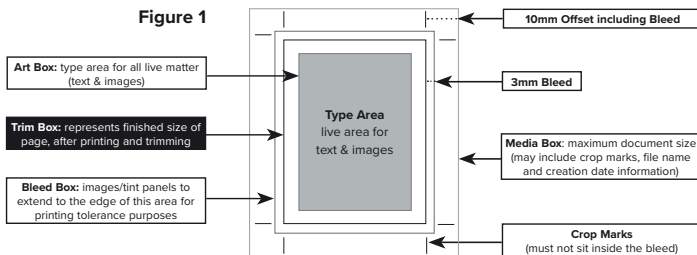
IMPORTANT TECHNICAL INFORMATION

PDF creation

- **PDFs must be Version 1.6** compliant to the ISO **PDF/X-4** standard as defined by ISO 15930-7 and have **ISO Coated V2 300% (ECI) as the defined Output Intent Profile Name**
- Adobe Indesign PDF Preset PDF/X-4:2008, PDF Standard PDF/X-4:2010
- PDFs must be CMYK only
- PDFs must not contain any transparent elements
- PDFs must be submitted as single pages
- PDFs must have a trim box (set to the trim size of the magazine)
- PDFs must have a bleed box (set to the bleed size of the magazine, 3mm on all sides. Images and backgrounds designed to trim size must have the images/tint panels extending into the full bleed area)
- PDFs must contain crop marks set to outside the bleed area (a 3mm bleed area should be included in the 10mm offset (see Figure 1 below))
- All fonts must be embedded and subset
- All images within the PDF must be high resolution - 300dpi at 100%
- 1-bit image resolution for line art and bitmap elements should be at least 2400dpi
- Transfer curves are not permitted and embedded halftone settings should be avoided
- Files must not have any security or encryption settings applied
- JBIG or JPEG2000 compression should be avoided
- PDFs should not include javascript, actions, form fields or embedded postscript fragments
- Layers should be avoided, we advise all elements are flattened prior to PDF export

In addition

- **Maximum combined colour density (TAC) should not exceed 300%**
- Images should be converted to CMYK using the ISOcoated_v2_300_eci.icc profile
- The ISOcoated_v2_300_eci.icc profile should be retained as both the Destination and Output Intent Profile Name when the PDF is exported from Adobe Indesign
- Where 4C BW images are supplied we recommend these are scanned to produce a long range black with correspondingly reduced amounts of cyan, magenta and yellow
- Final PDFs should be viewed using Adobe Acrobat with the Smooth Line Art setting deselected in order to ensure that there are no lines in the PDF that could show up when the file is printed (this setting can be found within Adobe Acrobat General Preferences > Page Display)



Design considerations

- **Fine lettering:** thin lines, box rules, small type matter and detail should be reproduced in one colour only to guarantee registration and clarity. **Black lines should be 100% black with no other colours**
- **Reversed lettering:** reversals should be made using a minimum of colour. Type matter or detail of smaller than 15pt size should be reversed out of one colour only
- **Double gutter image:** it is the file creator's responsibility to include double gutter image allowance if required. Neither Condé Nast nor our repro house nor our printer will apply double gutter image
- **Tints or consistent colour backgrounds:** when a common colour background is required for several pages or parts of a feature, careful consideration should be given to the use of one, or at the most two, colour(s) to enable consistency to be maintained across all areas. Where multiple colours are used a variation may occur due to tracking compromises on press
- **Rules, banners and borders:** fine lines, banners and borders running across a DPS may not align exactly due to folding and binding tolerances ($\pm 3\text{mm}$ in any direction). Text that reads across the spread needs to be at least 5mm clear of the gutter. It is inadvisable to run images across the gutter if the "subject of interest" is in the spine area
- **Trapping/choke/spread:** trapping must not be left undefined - it must be set to either True or False. The printer will apply a minimal trap at RIP stage
- **Overprint/knockout:** all file creation application settings will be honoured. White text should not be set to overprint. If the solid density is critical an additional tint of 40% cyan, 1% yellow and 1% magenta should be laid behind the black.

PDF transfer method

- ALL PDFs must be transmitted via the Condé Nast Ad portal hosted by Specle, adportal.condenast.co.uk
- Choose the publication from the opening screen by clicking on the corresponding *Print* button in the publication banner
- For single page ads select the *Full Page* option, for double page spreads select the *Spread* option (you will then need to upload 2 separate LH and RH PDFs)
- Complete the required fields (*Advertiser* (client name) and *Headline* (the client name can be repeated)), select the *Issue* from the drop down menu and *Choose file* to attach your PDF(s). *Special Instructions* can be added if applicable, before clicking the *Upload* button
- PDF(s) will then be flightchecked. Once the flightcheck is complete the status will update to one of the following:
Approve and Send - the PDF has passed the flightcheck. Click the green button to view the PDF and preflight report and click the green *Approve and Send* button again in this second window to deliver the PDF(s) to Condé Nast
Review Warnings - the PDF has warnings. Click the yellow button to review warnings before submitting the file. If you are happy to proceed with the warnings you can click the green *Approve and Send* button in this second window to deliver the PDF(s) to Condé Nast. Alternatively, you can re-export your PDF to eliminate the warnings and upload again. [Condé Nast accept no responsibility for files delivered with warnings](#)
Review Errors - the PDF has failed the flightcheck. Click the red button to review errors that need to be fixed before uploading a new PDF
- For extra assistance Specle also offer a PDF *Fix it for me* service for a small fee or a *Specle Create* service for creating PDFs - neither service is the responsibility of Condé Nast

Hard copy proofs

- All proofs **must** be produced from the PDFs supplied, 100% of final size and customer approved
- Condé Nast will accept:

GMG/EPSON proofs output to FOGRA 39L on the Epson 5000 using GMG ProofMedia premium semiMatte 250gsm paper Using the GMG MX4 profile: Epson_SCP5000-LLK_720x1440dpi8c_GMGsemimatte250_ISOcoatedv2-39L_V1.mx4
Checksum: 319D0638 (with sharpening disabled). Proof control data: ISO Coated v2 (39L) Condé.xml

OR

GMG/EPSON proofs output to FOGRA 39L on the Epson 9900 using GMG ProofMedia premium semiMatte 250gsm paper Using the GMG MX4 profile: Epson_x900_720dpi8c_GMGsemimatte250_ISOcoatedv2-39L_V1.mx4
Checksum - 1972654B. Proof Control Data - ISO V2 39L ISO12647-7 - CNP

All GMG/EPSON proofs must have the Ugra/FOGRA Media Wedge CMYK V3 and measure within an average Delta E of 2 (for optimum proof control and standardisation); no single patch can have a Delta E variation greater than 4. All proofs should be verified to show they have passed

If a hard copy proof is not supplied to the above specifications NO responsibility will be accepted by Condé Nast for the final printed result

FINAL PDF AND PROOF CHECKLIST

Before you submit your PDF to Condé Nast please double check the following specifications have been adhered to (they represent the most frequently occurring problems we encounter)

- PDFs must be **PDF Version 1.6** compliant to the ISO **PDF/X-4** standard as defined by ISO 15930-7 and have **ISO Coated V2 300% (ECI)** as the defined **Output Intent** profile name
- Advert is the **CORRECT SIZE**
- A **TRIM BOX** and **BLEED BOX** (set to the trim and bleed sizes of the magazine) must be present in the PDF and images/tint panels must extend to the whole of the bleed box area (3mm on all sides)
- A 10mm **OFFSET AREA** around the page must be included (this 10mm includes bleed)
- Crop marks **MUST** not encroach into the bleed area and **MUST** be embedded in the image area (see Figure 1)
- The PDF **MUST** be **CMYK** ie NO spot colour, NO RGB colour, NO CIE Lab colour, NO Index colour
- The original resolution and the effective resolution of all images **MUST** be over **300 dpi**
- All images and fonts must be **EMBEDDED & SUBSET** in the PDF
- Proof supplied is a GMG/EPSON PROOF OUTPUT to CONDE NAST Specifications (see above)

**For further information on PDF creation and settings,
please visit adportal.condenast.co.uk**