

File Preparation for the Epson 9800 Wide Format Inkjet

The Epson 9800 uses a Colorburst RIP to print files rather than Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator or InDesign. This allows us to get around certain file size limitations of the Epson print drivers. However, the RIP only accepts files in a certain format. By preparing your files correctly, you can minimize your paper use and be sure that things print as you intended.

The Colorburst RIP accepts the following file types:

TIFF (recommended)

PDF

JPG

EPS

PostScript

All files should be 8 bit RGB. Layers in files originating in Photoshop must be flattened. Fonts in Illustrator or InDesign should be converted to outlines. Ideally, images from Photoshop should be 300 dpi at the output size without upsampling. Page two of this handout contains details on these steps if you are unsure how to check for them. Save the flattened/outlined version of your file as a copy please.

If using Digital Studio-supplied paper, the maximum image width is 44". If you plan to bring your own paper, please check with Chris before purchasing to be sure it is compatible. We are using the Photo Black version of the Ultrachrome 3K inkset, at this time Matte Black is unavailable in the Digital Studio.

File Prep Checklist:

- ◇ **Layers Flattened/Type Outlined**
- ◇ **8 Bit RGB color mode**
- ◇ **44" or less wide in one dimension**
- ◇ **Saved as TIFF or other acceptable file type**
- ◇ **300 dpi (or small test before full-size print)**

Flattening Layers in Photoshop

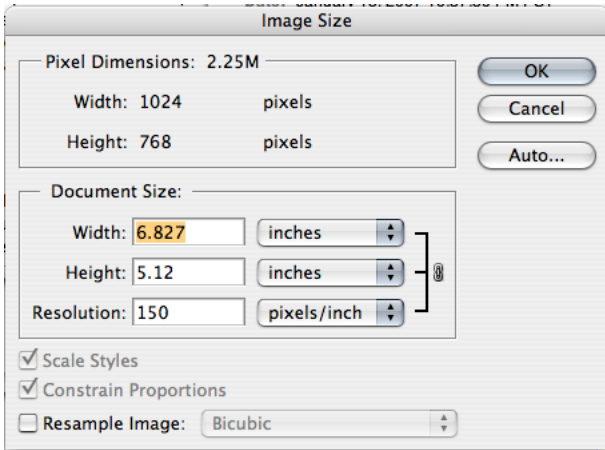
With the image open, choose *Layer > Flatten Image* to combine all layers. Independent editing of each layer will be lost after this step.

Converting to 8 bit RGB in Photoshop

With the image open, choose *Image > Mode > RGB Color* to convert to RGB. Then choose *Image > Mode > 8 Bits/Channel* to convert to 8 bit color.

Checking Image Resolution in Photoshop

With the image open, choose *Image > Image Size*. Uncheck the box next to “Resample Image” as shown below. Check that the Resolution setting is 300 pixels/inch.



Outlining Type in Illustrator

With the file open, choose *Select > All* to select all objects. Then choose *Type > Create Outlines* to convert text to outlines. Text editing will be lost in converted objects after this step.

Outlining Type in InDesign

With the file open, choose *Edit > Select All* to select all objects. Then choose *Type > Create Outlines* to convert text to outlines. Text editing will be lost in converted objects after this step.