

What is a dieline?

A dieline is a visual representation of how the print object is to be cut out as part of the finishing process. A dieline is usually recommended for projects with a custom shape. It indicates exactly how to cut the file.



no dieline




with dieline

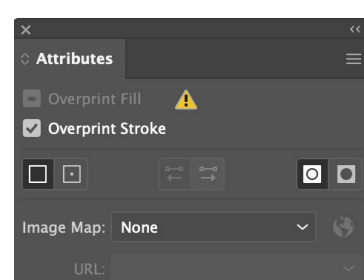
How do I create a dieline?

Creating a dieline is simple. A dieline should be a stroke in a spot color that is named exactly "CUT". This should be on a separate layer from the artwork, but in the same file.

Sinalite strongly recommends using **Adobe Illustrator** to create files that contain dielines. Here is a quick tutorial on how to create dielines with Illustrator.

- 1 In Illustrator create a new layer and call it "**CUT**".
- 2 Select the Dieline layer and create a stroke using the **shape tool or the pen tool** to outline the shape of the design. 
- 3 Once the outline is complete, select the shape, and in the color swatches panel create a new color.
- 4 Make sure that the color name is set to "CUT" (with that exact spelling and capitalization) and the color type is set to spot color.
- 5 Make sure that the color you just created is added to the object as a stroke color with no fill color.
- 6 Select the object again and go to the attributes panel to make sure that overprint stroke is checkmarked.

**If you do not have an attribute window on the left panel, go to "window" on the top menu and then select "attributes". The attributes window should now pop up.



- 7 Once the stroke is defined as a spot color named "CUT" and is set to overprint, save or export the file as a **high-resolution PDF or AI file**.

Here's a checklist for your dieline.

- The dieline is on its own layer
- The dieline is a spot color called exactly "CUT"
- The overprint of the dieline is on
- The dieline is a stroked vector object (no fill) that can be deleted