



# FABRIC PRINTING GUIDELINES

COOLEEDGE™

Thank you for choosing Cooledge Lighting for your printed fabric project. This guide walks you through everything you need to prepare, so your custom-printed luminaire looks exactly the way you envisioned it, from image submission to final installation.

## What's Inside This Guide:

- Step 1 — How the process works
- Step 2 — What image files you need to provide
- Step 3 — Understanding the soft proof
- Step 4 — Image quality & resolution requirements
- Step 5 — Bleed requirements
- Quick-reference checklist

## STEP 1 — HOW THE PROCESS WORKS

| Stage                  | What Happens  |
|------------------------|---|
| Quotation              | Pricing is prepared for your project based on the print area and setup requirements.  |
| Submittal & Soft Proof | You provide your image file. Our design team creates a soft proof — a digital preview showing how your image will look on the luminaire. You review and approve it. |
| Sampling (if required) | A sample order can be arranged for you to review the printed fabric before full production.   |
| Pre-Production Review  | Our team verifies your full-resolution file, finalizes production documents, and prepares the print file.   |
| Production             | Your fabric is printed and prepared for shipping.   |
| Fulfillment            | Printed fabric is shipped to site, ready for installation on your Cooledge luminaire.   |

## STEP 2 — WHAT IMAGE FILES YOU NEED TO PROVIDE

### Preferred File Formats

- Vector files (AI, EPS, PDF) are strongly preferred — they scale perfectly to any size without quality loss.
- Raster files (TIFF, PSD, JPEG, PNG) are accepted — but must meet the resolution requirements described in Step 4.

### Colour Space

All image files must be converted to CMYK colour space before submission. Images in RGB will need to be converted, which can result in slight colour shifts. For the most accurate colour result, please work with a graphic designer to prepare a CMYK file.

### File Naming

Please name your file to clearly match the luminaire it is intended for. For example:

- ProjectName\_LuminaireID\_Image.tiff

### How to Send Your Files

Send your image files to your Cooledge representative at the same time as your submittal request. Both a PDF preview and the high-resolution source file are required.

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## STEP 3 – UNDERSTANDING THE SOFT PROOF

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A soft proof is a digital mockup created by our design team. It shows exactly how your image will appear on the luminaire — including which part of the image will be visible on the light-emitting surface and which part will fall in the bleed area around the edges.

### What the Soft Proof Shows You

- An outline of the luminaire frame overlaid on your image
- The bleed area — the portion of image that extends beyond the luminaire frame (required for installation tolerance)
- The file name of the image being used
- The part number of the Cooledge luminaire it is being installed on
- The size of the printed area (including bleed)
- The size of the luminaire
- Any concerns our team has about resolution or printability

### What We Need From You to Create a Soft Proof

- Your image file (ideally with an outline of the luminaire overlaid on top, showing what falls outside the frame)
- The file name of the full-resolution image, matched to the correct luminaire
- Your project or customer reference number
- The intended mounting height and typical viewing distance — this helps us advise on the minimum required image quality

### Your Approval

Once you receive the soft proof, please review it carefully for:

- Image positioning and cropping
- Alignment of any logos, text, or focal elements within the luminaire frame
- Overall composition and bleed

A signed soft proof — confirming your acceptance of the design — is required before your order enters production. Production cannot begin without this approval.

## STEP 4 – IMAGE QUALITY & RESOLUTION REQUIREMENTS

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The quality of the final printed fabric depends directly on the resolution of the image you provide. Resolution requirements vary depending on how close viewers will be to the luminaire.

### Understanding DPI

DPI (dots per inch) describes the density of printed detail. The further away viewers are, the lower the DPI needed — because fine detail becomes imperceptible at distance. Use the table below as a guide:

| Viewing Distance | Suggested Image Resolution |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| 0.6 m / 2 ft     | 300 dpi                    |
| 1 m / 3.3 ft     | 180 dpi                    |
| 1.5 m / 5 ft     | 120 dpi                    |
| 2 m / 6.5 ft     | 90 dpi                     |
| 3 m / 10 ft      | 60 dpi                     |
| 5 m / 16 ft      | 35 dpi                     |
| 10 m / 33 ft     | 18 dpi                     |
| 15 m / 50 ft     | 12 dpi                     |

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## Resolution Guidelines by Print Size

- For prints smaller than 1 m<sup>2</sup>: provide the file at actual (1:1) size, with 60–100 ppi resolution.
- For prints larger than 1 m<sup>2</sup>: provide the file at 1:10 scale, with a file resolution of 600–1000 ppi (which equals 60–100 ppi on the actual print).
- For very large installations viewed from a significant distance: 360 ppi in the source file (36 ppi on print) may be sufficient.

## Example

If your image is 3,600 × 3,600 pixels at 1,200 dpi, the natural print size at full resolution is 3 inches. To print at 30 inches, the effective dpi drops to 120 — which is appropriate for a viewing distance of approximately 1.5 m / 5 ft.

## STEP 5 – BLEED REQUIREMENTS

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Bleed refers to the portion of the printed image that extends beyond the visible edge of the luminaire frame. It is essential because installing and tensioning fabric across the frame requires some tolerance for alignment. Without bleed, the edges of your image may not align correctly with the frame.

### Minimum Bleed Requirements

| Situation                               | Required Bleed   |
|---|--|
| Standard installation                   | Minimum 6 in (150 mm) on all sides                               |
| Complex shapes or detailed edge artwork | Recommended 12 in (300 mm) on all sides                          |
| Solid color on the edge                 | Solid color extended 6 in (150 mm) beyond the frame on all sides |
| Full-bleed image (fills frame)          | Image extended 6 in (150 mm) beyond the frame on all sides       |

### Logos and Centred Graphics

If you are placing a logo or centred graphic on a solid-color background, the logo must be positioned with at least 6 in (150 mm) of clearance between the outer edge of the logo and the luminaire frame on all sides. This prevents part of the logo from being obscured by or falling outside the frame.

## QUICK-REFERENCE CHECKLIST

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Use this checklist to make sure your project is ready for submittal:

- Image file provided in a vector format (AI, EPS) or high-resolution raster (TIFF, PSD)
- File converted to CMYK colour space
- Resolution meets the requirements for your expected viewing distance (see Step 4)
- Image includes a minimum 6 in (150 mm) bleed on all sides
- File name matches the luminaire it is intended for
- Project or customer reference number included
- Mounting height and viewing distance provided (recommended)
- Soft proof reviewed and signed before production begins