DATA SHEET

PinguinDruck

How to create die-cut shapes

General information

To create a die-cut shape, please use a vector-based layout or graphics program (such as Adobe InDesign or Illustrator). Pixel files from image editing programs like Photoshop are generally unsuitable as they cannot be read.

The tool contour should always be created as a spot colour at 100% tone value.
Effects (drop shadows, gradients etc.) are not possible!

Please always place the shape on your design. This is the only way to ensure a perfect fit and to check its position accordingly.

Shapes that are composed of several objects must be combined into a closed shape without overlaps e.g. using the Pathfinder).
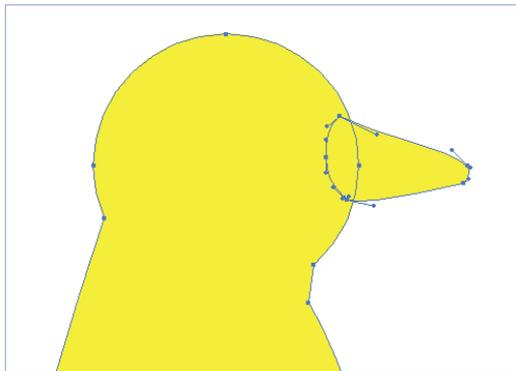
Individual objects of the shape overlap ✗   *All objects combined in a closed shape* ✔
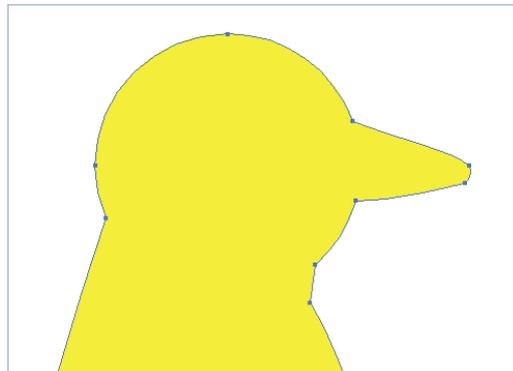
Please note!

Minimum size: 4 mm between two knives
Swatch name: stanze
Special features: Simple shapes

How to create die-cut shapes
using Adobe Illustrator

A die-cut contour should be kept as simple as possible. Too fine details cannot be reproduced, for production-related reasons. For complex contours, additional costs may be incurred for tooling.
The margin between two die-cut lines should be at least 4 mm.

1. Create a new swatch for the die-cut shape.
   Swatch name: stanze
   Colour type: Spot colour
   Colour mode: CMYK
   Magenta: 100%

2. Create the shape to be die-cut as a contour.
   The contour is assigned the colour "stanze" and a contour thickness of 0.25 pt, the filling remains without colour.
   The contour is set to "overprint". In InDesign and Illustrator this option can be found via Menu → Window → Attributes.

Fonts must be converted to paths.

3. Printed areas extending to the die-cut contour must extend 2 mm beyond the die-cut contour to avoid white gaps.

4. When creating the PDF, do not change the colour in the colour settings.
   The die-cut shape is then available in the finished PDF as an additional colour. In the Separation/Output Preview in Acrobat, you can check whether the contour is placed precisely on the design and set to overprint, and whether the bleed is present.
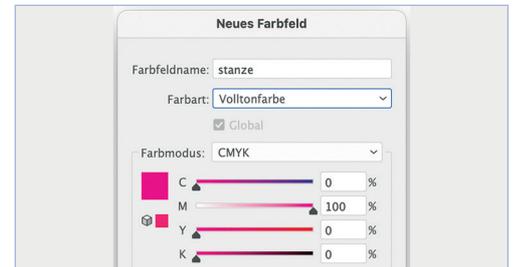
Set swatch for die-cut
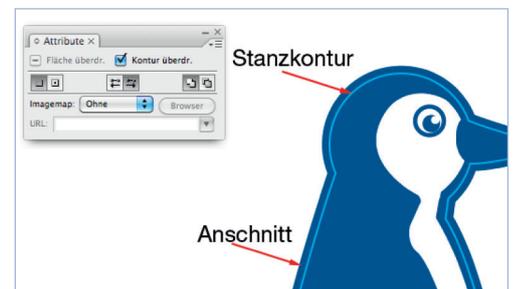
Set contour to overprinting
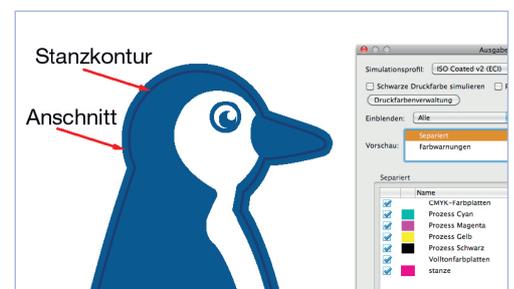
Overprint Preview in finished PDF