

# How to achieve true transparency with Adobe InDesign 2 and Acrobat 5

Transparency features have been available in applications such as Illustrator, InDesign, Freehand and Corel Draw for some time now - but no RIP manufacturers have been able to actually RIP them correctly. In other words, transparency was only workable for projects such as web and video - but not for print output.

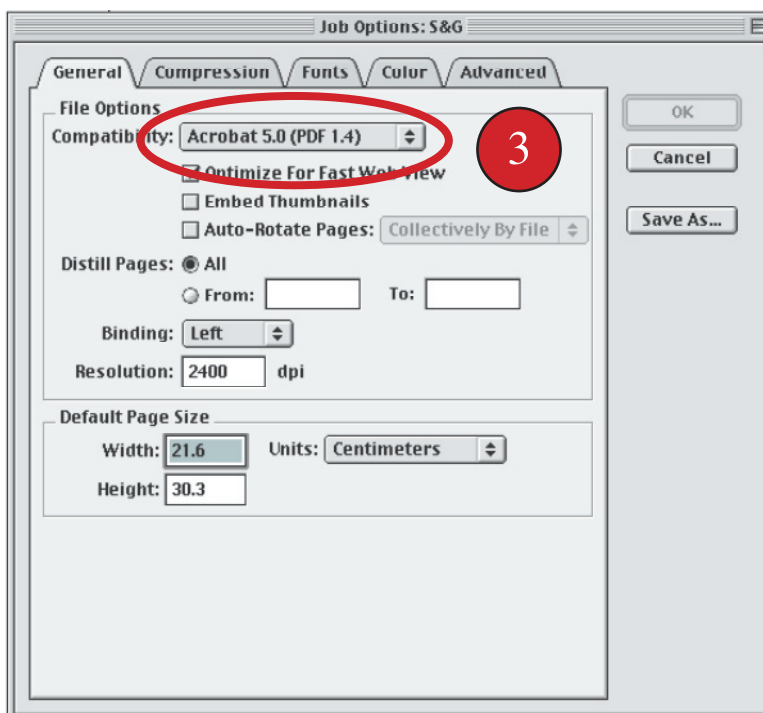
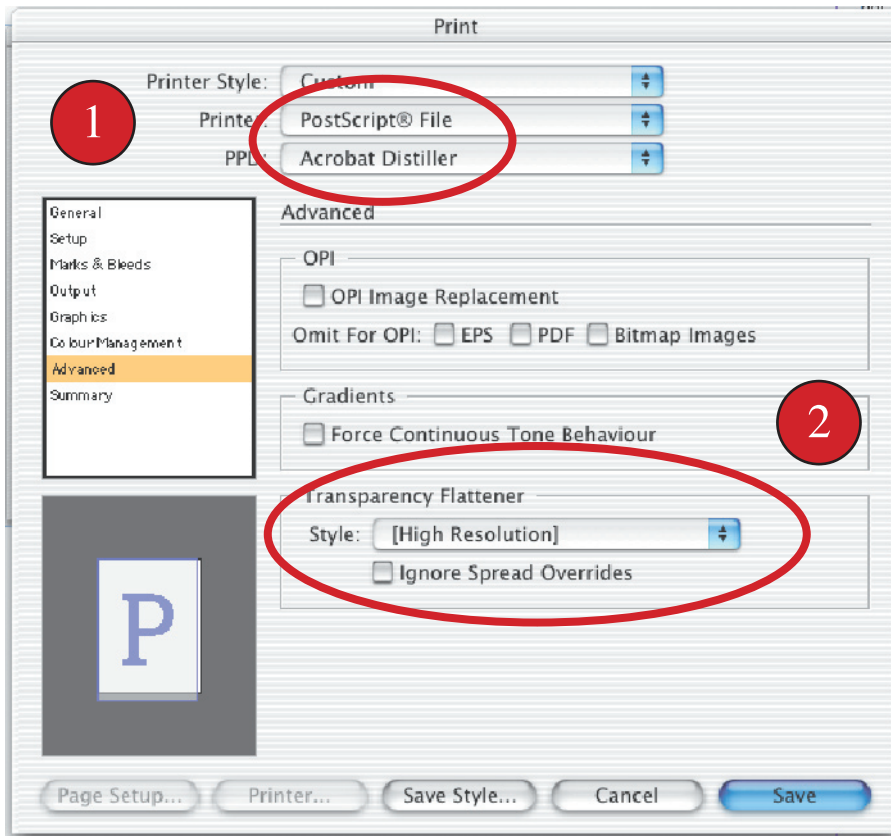
This has now changed with the creation of 'transparency flatteners'. This is a mechanism which turns 'native transparency' into a format which the RIP can understand.

There are only 2 basic points to follow to achieve the correct results for transparency in a high-end pre-press workflow.

## ADOBE INDESIGN 2

1 Ensure you are selecting 'Postscript' as your printer type and 'Acrobat Distiller' as your printer description.

2 Within the category 'transparency flattener' make sure you select 'High Resolution'. This will enable all your custom values to be correct for high-end pre-press output.



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## ADOBE ACROBAT DISTILLER 5

3 You must amend your job options to enable Distiller to utilise the PDF 1.4 specification. This will not only allow for transparency in its 'flattened' state - but when RIPs are upgraded to process 'native transparency' - then this will work in the future also.

Please note that we cannot accept raw PDFs from Illustrator, Freehand and/or Corel Draw with transparency. We can however - as noted above, accept PDFs which have been flattened from Adobe InDesign 2.