

# Digital Image Spec source: Electric Lane

Points to specify	Typical spec if there is no other information	Notes
File size	According to output size	Final use according to output size and resolution.
Resolution	300dpi	This is an accepted convention for much of publishing, though some sectors may specify differently for output.
Format	JPEG or TIFF (8 bit/channel file)	Definitely NOT Raw files, which should be converted to one of these standard formats.
Extras	No layers or extra channels or annotations	
Compression	Not less than level 8 jpeg/ or (sometimes) none	TIFF files should not be delivered in compressed form (for example TIFF with JPEG compression)
Colour Space	Adobe RGB 1998	The standard independent colour space for delivery of RGB files
	or CMYK Euroscale coated or ISO Web coated	Standard independent colour spaces for delivery of CMYK files in Europe (in the absence of information about the destination printing press). ISO web coated is recommended by Pic4press (at <a href="http://www.pass4press.com">www.pass4press.com</a> )
		Files delivered specifically for web use should be converted to an agreed colour space (usually sRGB) and colour profiles should be removed (unless requested). All file info should be removed and no sharpening applied unless requested. (Web designers sometimes blur images to reduce their size.)
Image file tagging (colour profile)	Attach colour profile	The profile should be that of the device-independent working colour space (Adobe RGB 1998, CMYK Eurocoated, ISO Web coated). Although the RGB colour profile is small, the CMYK profile will add about 0.5 MB to the CMYK file size. Although profiles may be dropped at printing stage, it is important that they are attached at previous stages.
Sharpening	Minimal or none, until final output image size is known	
Cleaning	Cleaned to 50 or 100%	
Colour Balance	Files should be colour balanced	Archival files should show the maximum tonal range for the subject. (Generally there should be no clipping unless the image requires it.)
Colour correction	Free of unwanted colour casts	The extent of colour correction needs to be defined. In general, the file should be free of colour casts - ie colour neutral (unless a colour cast is part of the composition).
File extensions attached	Always attach file extensions	NB Mac users - this is a preference setting in Photoshop. Essential to transfer between Mac and PC platforms.
Caption Material	IPTC/XML or text file	Caption and credit info should be included in File/info. The industry is currently working on standards.
Labelling	According to workflow	
Interpolation	No interpolation (or specify amount and acceptable methods)	

NOTES: The specifications should be reviewed at least annually to take account of changes in technology