CHESSCRAFT STUDIO · FREE CHECKLIST

Print-ready packaging checklist

Tick every box before you send packaging artwork to your printer. Most reprints come from a handful of avoidable file mistakes.

1 Dieline and structure

- [ ] The dieline comes from your printer, or matches their board and tooling
- [ ] Dimensions are inner sizes, checked against the real product with 1 to 3 mm clearance
- [ ] Board thickness is set correctly, as thicker board needs larger panels
- [ ] A plain white sample has been folded and checked with the product inside

2 Bleed and safe area

- [ ] The background runs 3 mm past every cut line (or your printer's bleed)
- [ ] Text, logos and barcodes sit at least 3 mm inside cuts and away from folds
- [ ] Nothing important crosses a fold, a glue flap or a window
- [ ] Glue areas are left unprinted unless your printer says otherwise

3 Artwork and colour

- [ ] The file is in CMYK, or brand colours are set as Pantone spot colours
- [ ] Images are 300 dpi at their final printed size
- [ ] Small text is 100% black, with rich black kept for large areas only
- [ ] Fonts are outlined or embedded
- [ ] The dieline sits on its own layer, set not to print

4 Text and compliance

- [ ] Product name, net weight or volume and barcode are on the right panels
- [ ] Ingredients, warnings and legal text are checked by you or your compliance adviser
- [ ] Text sizes meet the rules for every market you sell in
- [ ] Two people have proofread every panel

5 Files to send

- [ ] A print-ready PDF (PDF/X-1a or PDF/X-4 if your printer asks)
- [ ] The dieline included as a separate layer or spot colour
- [ ] A 3D mockup or folded preview for reference
- [ ] Your written approval of the printer's proof before production starts

Always print a test sample and confirm the dieline with your printer or die-maker before a full production run.

Make your dieline free
chesscraft.studio/free-dieline-generator

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