

Instructions for Preparing Card Files for Printing at MB print

Step 1: Divide Cards by Size

Each individual card size (e.g., 41 mm x 63 mm, 63.5 mm x 89 mm, etc.) should be prepared as a separate PDF file. If you are printing cards in multiple sizes, create separate files for each size.

Example:

- A deck measuring 41 mm x 63 mm → file named `kowalski_41x63.pdf`
 - A deck measuring 63.5 mm x 89 mm → file named `kowalski_63,5x89.pdf`
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Step 2: Arranging Cards in the PDF

The file should contain alternating fronts (faces) and backs of the cards. Each card corresponds to two consecutive pages in the PDF file:

Example for a 30-card deck:

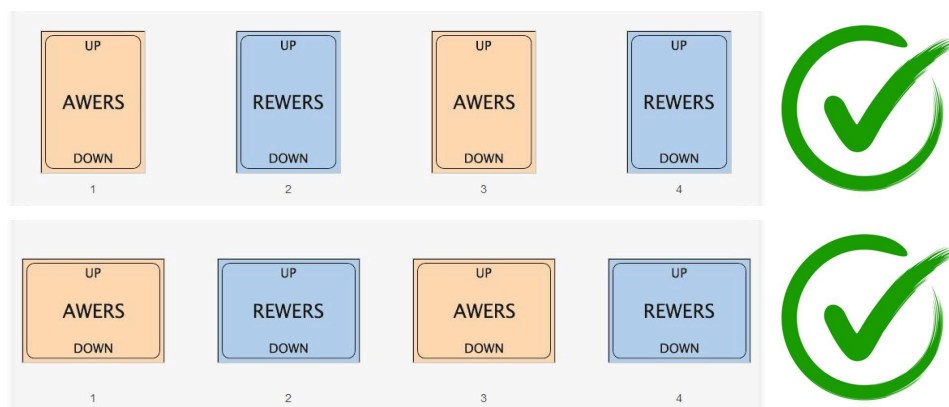
- page 1 – front of card #1
- page 2 – back of card #1
- page 3 – front of card #2
- page 4 – back of card #2
- ... and so on, up to page 60.

If the deck includes multiple identical cards, you must duplicate those cards in the PDF as well.

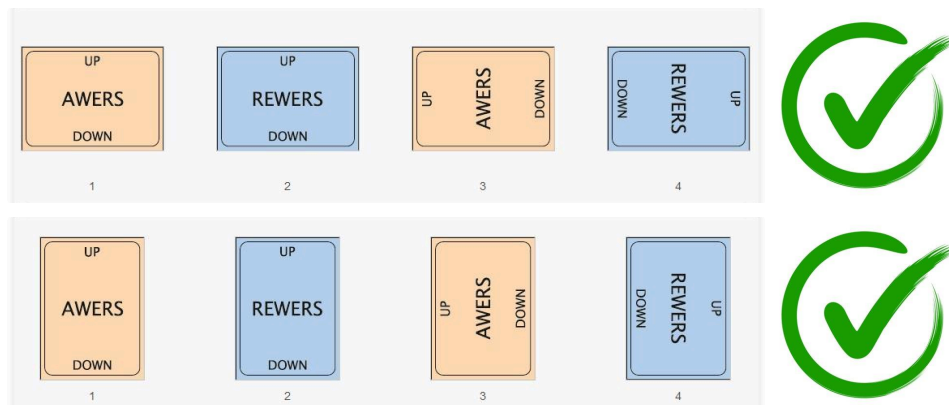
Step 3: Card Orientation (Vertical or Horizontal)

Prepare the PDF in the same orientation in which the cards will be used:

- Vertical cards → pages in portrait orientation.
- Horizontal cards → pages in landscape orientation.



Important: If your file includes both vertical and horizontal cards, pay special attention! For any card that is laid out in an orientation different from how it will actually be used, you must rotate the back side 180° relative to the front.



Step 4: Page Size and Bleed

Each page in the PDF should be larger than the card dimensions by 6 mm in length and 6 mm in width (3 mm of bleed on each edge).

Example:

- Card: 63 mm x 88 mm → PDF page: 69 mm x 94 mm.

The bleed is an extra 3 mm of artwork that extends beyond the final card size. This bleed area must be a continuation of the card's design, not just a random color or a white border. The only exception is if the card itself has a white border — in that case, white can serve as the bleed. In any other case, the artwork should be extended into the bleed area.

Step 5: Safe Area for Important Elements

One of the key aspects when preparing cards for printing is maintaining a safe area around the edges of the card. Anything placed too close to the card's edge (the cutting line) may get trimmed due to mechanical tolerance in printing and cutting.

Important:

- Do not place critical elements (text, symbols, icons) closer than 4 mm from the card's cut edge!
- These elements must be clearly shifted towards the center of the card to avoid accidental cropping or misalignment caused by minor production deviations.

Step 6: Borders on Cards

If you are using borders, they should be at least 4 mm wide after trimming. A thinner border makes even the smallest printing shift more apparent and reduces the overall appearance quality of the

cards.

The border should also extend into the bleed area (an extra 3 mm).

Step 7: Marks in the PDF

Do not include trim lines or corner roundings in the file. The only acceptable marks are corner crop marks (registration marks).

Step 8: File Name

In the PDF file name, include your last name/company name and the card dimensions, for example:

- `kowalski_41x63.pdf`
- `kowalski_63,5x89.pdf`

If you have previously placed orders with us, please add the date of the current order (to reduce the risk of confusion), for example:

- `kowalski_63x88_23.06.2025.pdf`
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Step 9: Converting Text to Outlines

We recommend converting all text to outlines (also known as “flattening” or “font conversion”) before sending the file for printing.

- This will help avoid any font-related issues and potential errors during printing.
 - If we receive a file without text converted to outlines, we will not accept complaints regarding incorrect font rendering.
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Additional Information About Ordered Card Specifications

Paper Options:

1. Matte coated 350 gsm (premium)
2. Matte coated 300 gsm (standard, similar to popular LCG games)
3. Textured 275 gsm (linen structure)
4. Matte coated 130 gsm (for single-sided proxies only)

For single-sided printing (proxy): we recommend 130 gsm paper.

Corner Rounding

Optional; by default, we round corners with a 5 mm radius.

Card Finishing – Optional Lamination:

1. Holographic foil (rainbow effect)
 2. Matte foil (velvety finish, not recommended for cards with a dark border)
 3. Gloss foil (e.g., for dry-erase markers)
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By following the above guidelines, your order will be printed as expected, and the finished cards will look both professional and aesthetically pleasing.