Everything you need to know about « CutContour » for custom die cut.

Read carefully !

CUTCONTOUR TECHNIQUE

CutContour is a worldwide standard for custom die cut in the printing industry.
You need a vector software such as Illustrator to create it.
Some names may differ from one software to another as well as from French to English.

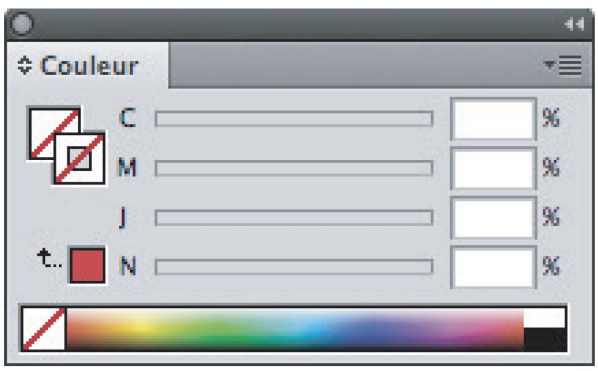
STEP 1 - create or upload your file on Illustrator

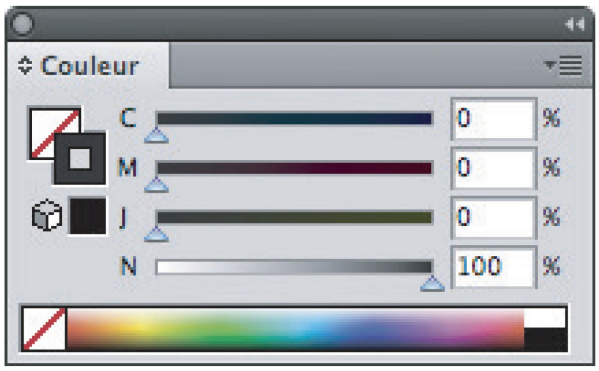
Add 5mm bleed to your file according to the desired final shape. On this example the blade will cut inside the pink colour to avoid any unprinted white part showing after cutting.

Draw your die cut path on Illustrator as it must be made of vector paths.

We can see that the red line representing the final cut in placed 5mm inside the printed edge. For simple rectangle, square or round shapes, follow the same procedure.

STEP 2



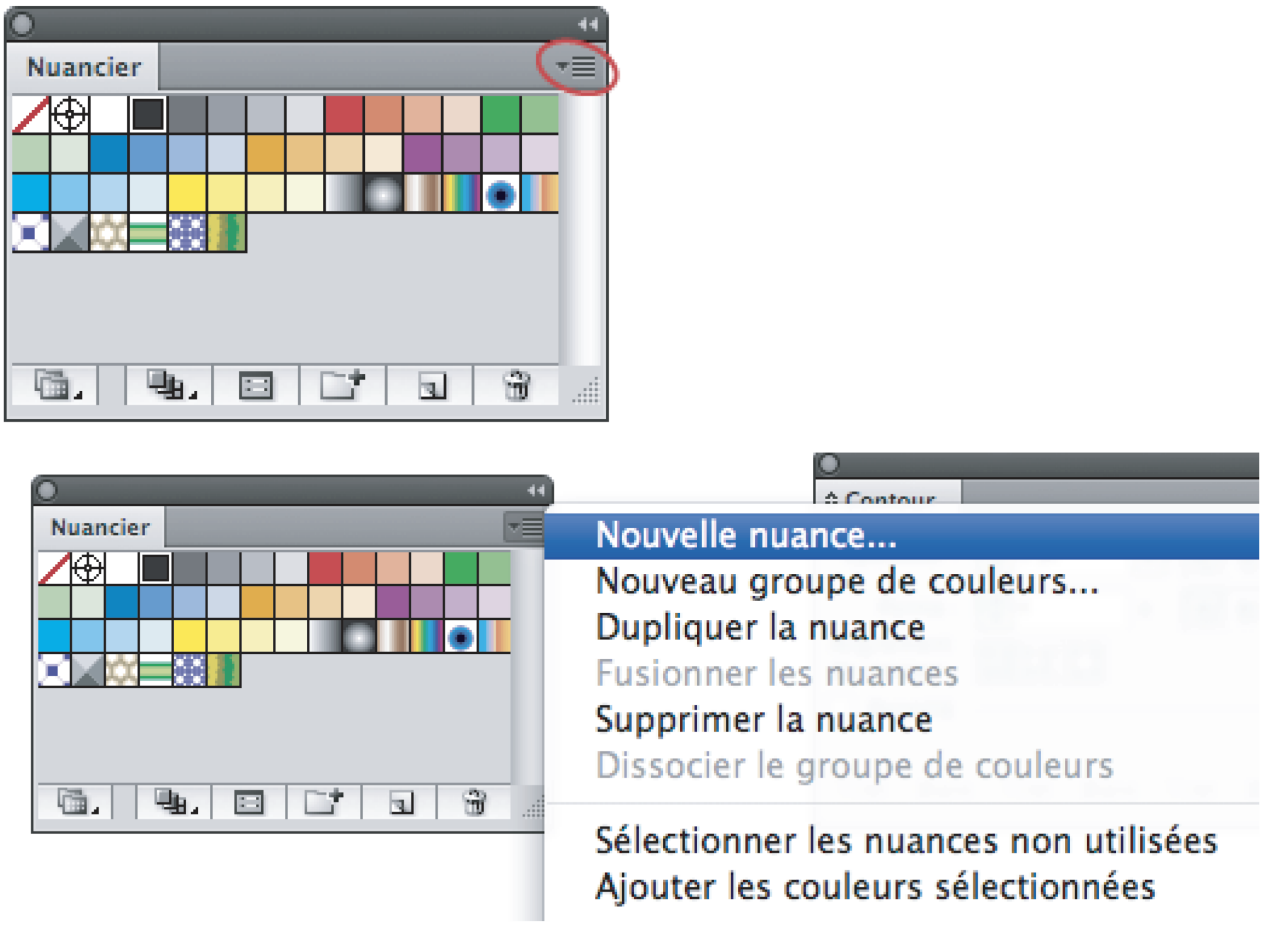


Select your vector path with your mouse, open the « Colour » window and apply a black

outline CMYK (0/0/0/100).

STEP 3

Once the colour is applied, open the « Colour chart » and select the small « Options » tab (circled in red on the image).

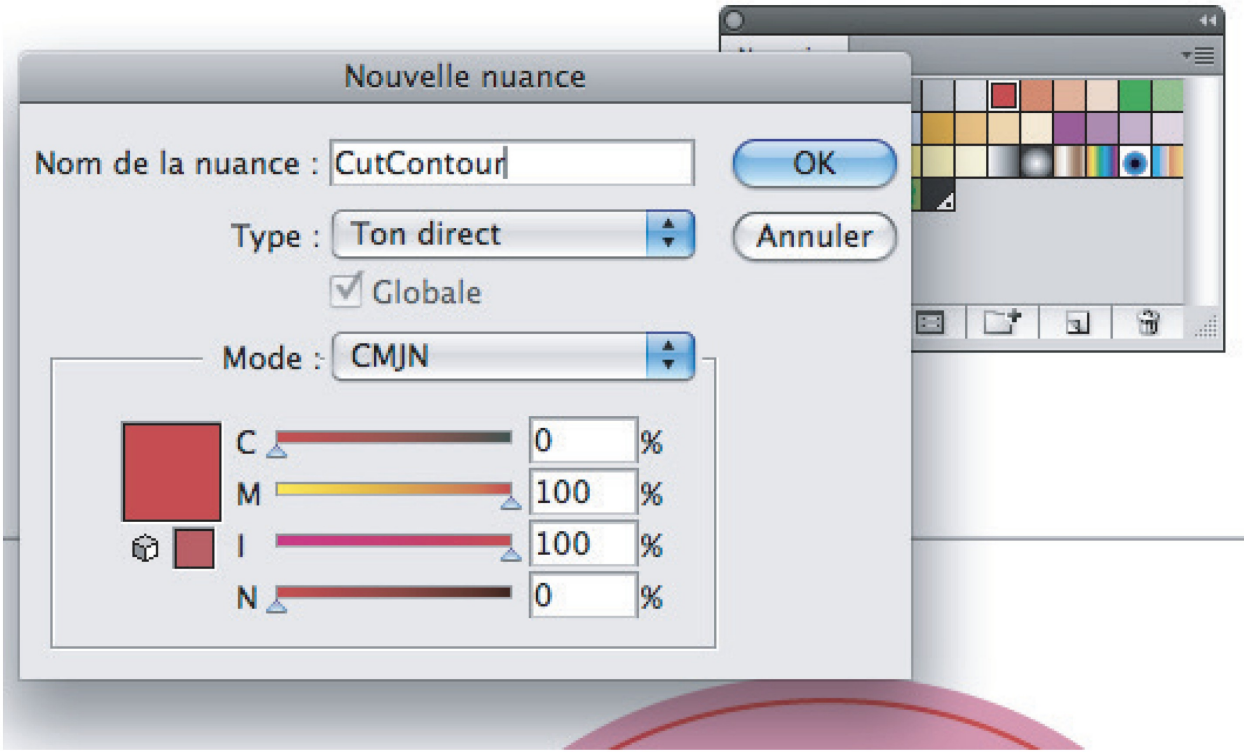


Create a new colour chart in the list. A new window opens.

Enter each of these elements :

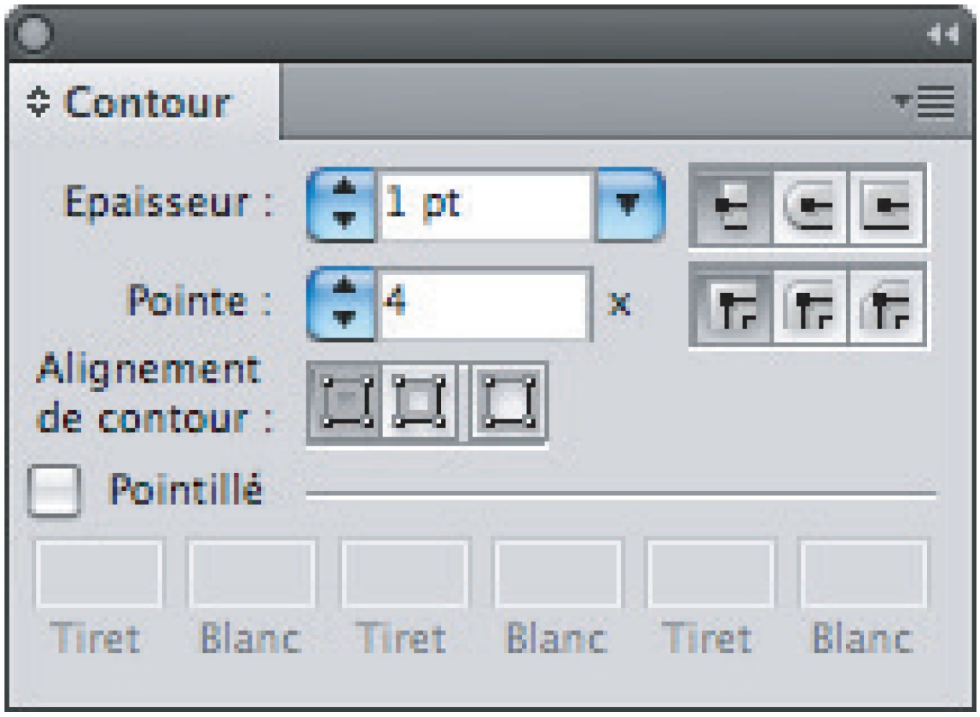
- Name : CutContour (exactly as it is)
- Type : spot colour
- Mode : CMYK

Choose a colour which will create some contrast between the printed colour and the « CutContour » vector path so that we can see it clearly when checking your file.



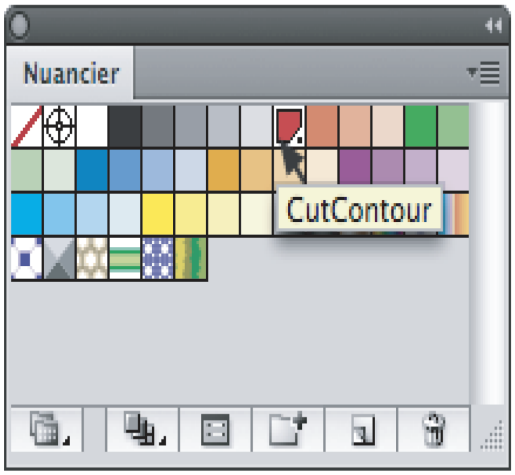
STEP 4

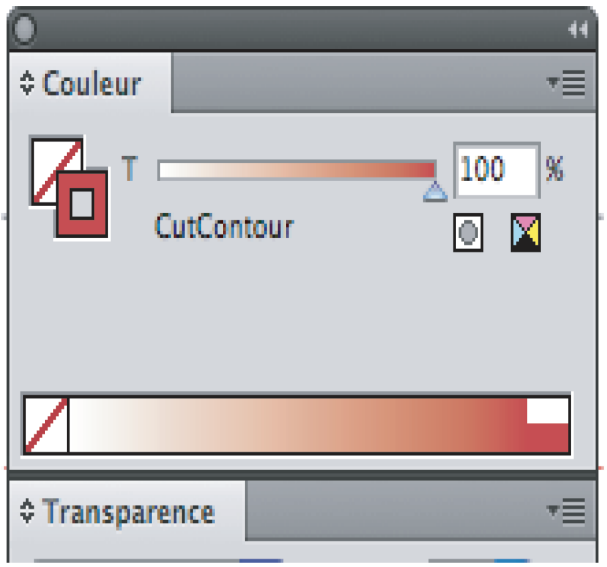
Check that the thickness of the path is 1 point.



STEP 5

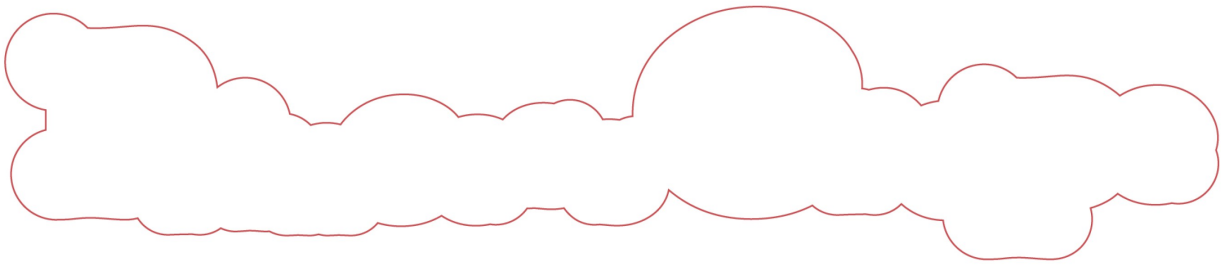
To check if your « CutContour » path has been taken into account, simply select the path on your file and open the « Colour chart » window. Place your mouse on the colour and its name should appear.





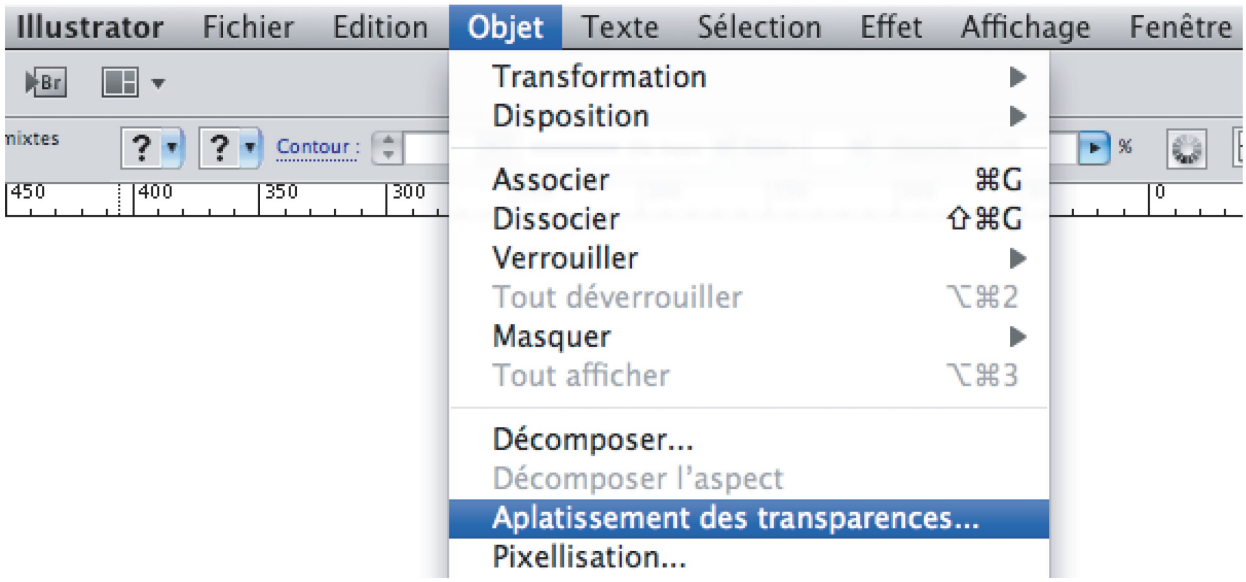
Here is the PDF file you need to upload with your order (outlined file mandatory + CutContour path).

If you select the CutContour as a single layer, you can easily isolate it.



WARNING :

If you file contains transparency effects, please select all layers of your file except the « CutContour » path. Select the « Object » tab and then « flattening of transparencies » to avoid any problem.

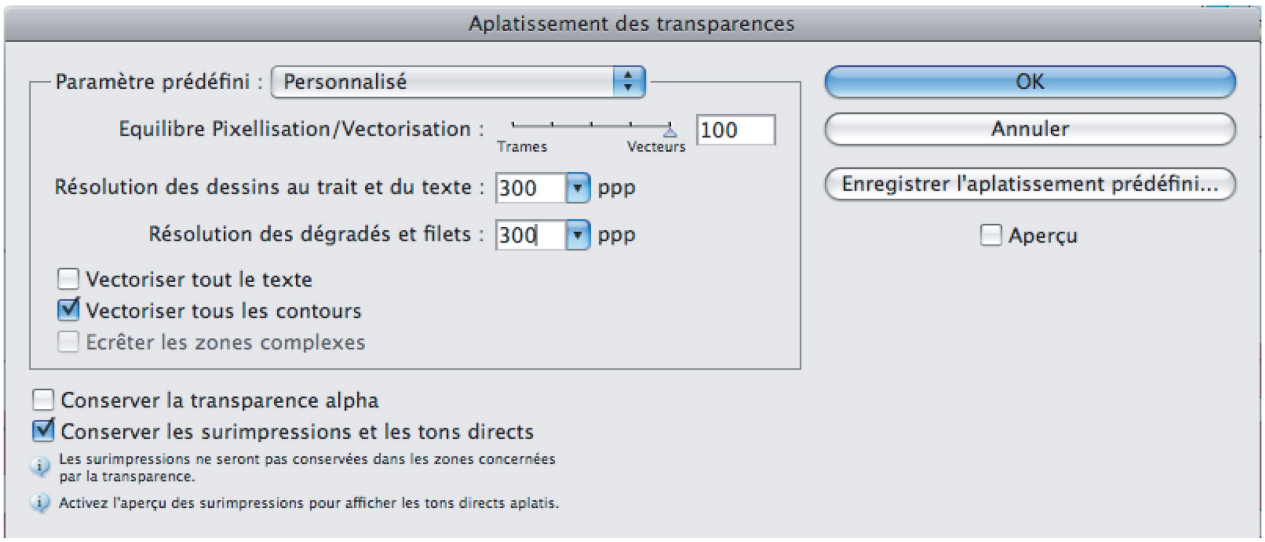


Enter the following :

Balance pixel / vector : 100% vector
Resolution of ldrawing line and text : 300 ppp
Resolution of gradients and filets : 300 ppp
Check that « overprinting and spot colour » is checked

Validate = OK

You can send us your file containing the « CutContour » vector path is a separate layer.



Thank you !!!