

How to prepare a magnet for submission to Chalk Line

To ensure that your magnet prints well, please refer to the following guidelines to help you layout and submit your design.

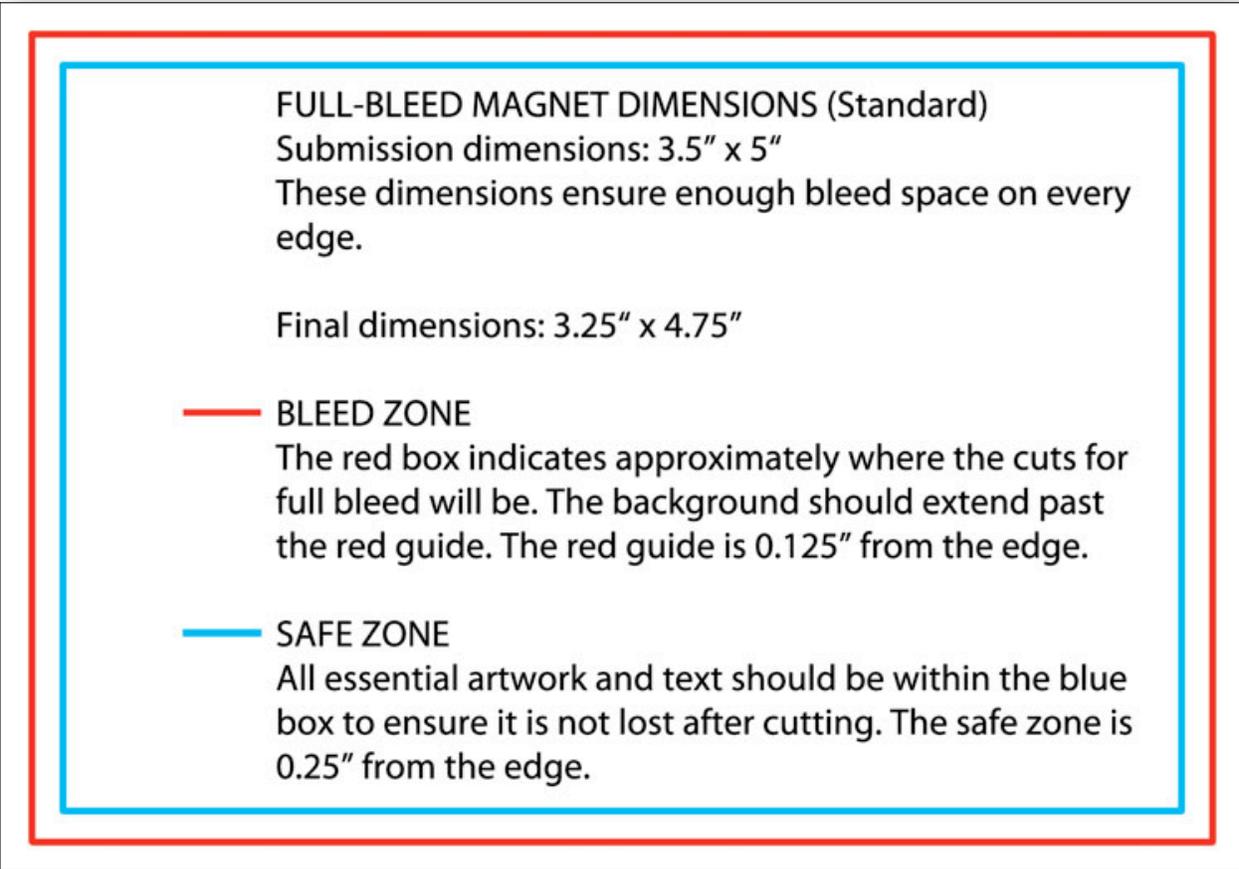
LAYOUT

Chalk Line magnets are full-bleed, which means that color goes to the edge of the magnet. Our printers are unable to print all the way to the edge of paper, so to achieve a full-bleed, each piece must be cut down to its final size after printing.

The final dimensions of a standard-sized magnet after it is cut are 3.25" x 4.75". Our equipment requires a 0.125" space around every edge for the full-bleed. **When you design your newsletter, please design it with the dimensions 3.5" x 5".**

Although 0.125" is required on every side to allow for the full-bleed, please keep any essential artwork or text 0.25" away from every edge to avoid losing any important information or images. This allows for any shifts during printing. The background should continue beyond the bleed zone all the way to the edge of the design.

Refer to the image below as a guideline.



Below is an example of a magnet designed according to our specs. The dimensions of this design are 3.5" x 5", and it takes into account the bleed zone and cut zone. Notice that the background is continuous and runs all the way to the edges.



Similarly, if you are using a single image or photo for the magnet, make sure that no essential elements of the image (e.g. the side of a person's face, the family dog, etc.) are beyond 0.25" margins.

Now I'm going to overlay the bleed zone and safe zone margins so you can see where they fall on the design:



The red line indicates the approximate location of the cuts. The blue line indicates the margin of the safe zone. Notice that all of the text and images are within the blue line to ensure that they will not be cut off. If the image shifts during printing, I know that my graphics are still safe.

Note on size:

This guide uses examples of our **in-house “Standard” size magnet**, which has the final dimensions of 3.25” x 4.75”. We also have 4” x 3” and 4” x 6” magnet sizes available. If you have questions about custom sizes, please email friends@chalkline.org.

All sizes require the same .125” bleed space on every edge, so artwork must be designed with the same bleed and safe space as shown in this guide.

Note on image quality:

To ensure high-quality printing, please use images with the highest image quality available. Our recommended image resolution is 300 dpi. Images taken from the internet and social media applications tend to be of lower quality than is required for printing. Using original files for all photos, logos, and other graphics is always best.

Design options:

Blank templates with print layout guides are available for you to download and design your own magnet in the following formats:

- MS Word
- MS Publisher
- Apple Pages
- Adobe InDesign
- Adobe PDF
- JPEG

If you would prefer to have Chalk Line assist in creating a beautiful design for your magnet, you can find out more about our design services at www.chalkline.org.

If you have any questions about layout, printing, or pricing, please email friends@chalkline.org.

