

THE 5 DOS AND DONT'S OF OVERSIZED SCREEN PRINTING

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1. **DO** understand what oversized screen-printing is.
2. **DON'T** use plastisol on large print areas.
3. **DO** check the shirt size specs when printing an oversized design.
4. **DON'T** confuse oversized printing with the term "cut & sew".
5. **DO** mock-up your design on a template to visualize the results you're likely to get.

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OF OVERSIZED SCREEN PRINTING

1. **DO** understand what oversized screen-printing is. Generally, anything over a print area of 14" x 17" is considered oversized printing. At Real Thread, that leaves you with the following choices and their respected print areas:

<u>OVERSIZE</u>	<u>JUMBO</u>	<u>ALL-OVER</u>
17" x 22"	19" x 33"	40" x 36"

Something to keep in mind, the dimensions of your printed design will not change based on the shirt sizes you order. However, you may want to consider changing the image size on your different shirt sizes. Each print size has required minimum quantities, so plan accordingly.

2. **DON'T** use plastisol on large print areas when you can avoid it. Water based and discharge inks are highly recommended on larger prints because the ink soaks into the shirt instead of sitting on top, as plastisol does. Large plastisol prints can be moisture barriers thus irritating the skin at times. Since the shirt will maintain it's original lightweight quality, with water based inks, you're left with a super soft and comfortable shirt that people will actually love to wear.
3. **DO** check the shirt size specs when printing an oversized design. Screen-printing anything larger than a standard print size could result in the design hitting the sewn seams on the shirt. When this happens, print imperfections are likely to occur because the seams do not lay as flat as the rest of the fabric. The inconsistencies can cause the design to become slightly distorted. When your design requires printing over the seams, we recommend patterns or distressed designs, as opposed to solid designs.
4. **DON'T** confuse oversized printing with the term "cut & sew". Cut & sew means to have the shirt or fabric printed on before it's manufactured to avoid any print inconsistencies. This route is always a possibility, but you're looking at 10,000 piece minimums, high turnaround times and generally overseas production.
5. **DO** mock-up your design on an apparel template to visualize the results you're likely to get. Download an apparel template so you can visualize your oversized design on a full size run (XS - 4XL). This will help project a close representation of the results you're likely to achieve where your design elements will fall in relation to the seams and get you shirts that people are going to love to wear and talk about.