

Spot UV Varnish is a clear coating applied to parts of business cards. The varnish is shiny and any coated elements really stand out.

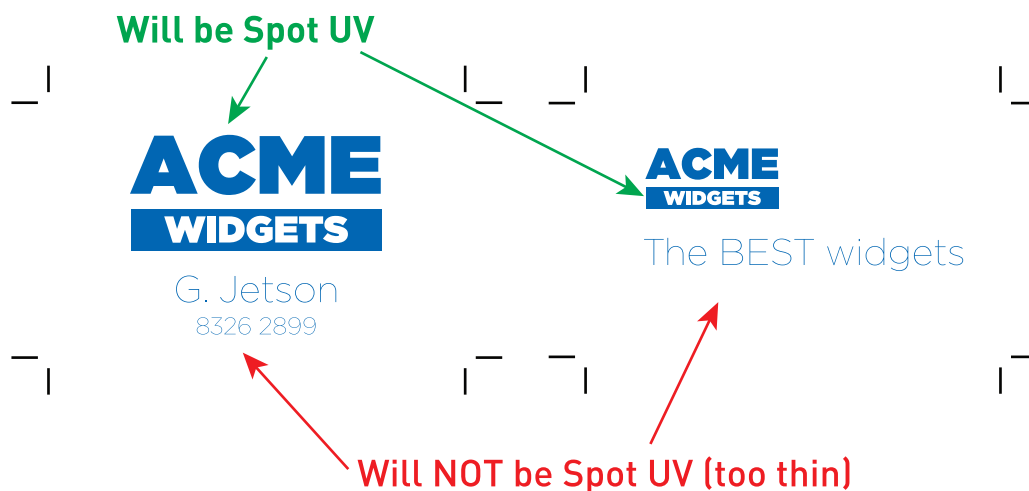
Preparing Spot UV artwork **absolutely** requires professional vector software like Illustrator, InDesign, Coreldraw, or similar. PhotoShop is not vector based, and home programs do not have the right tools. If you are **experienced** with suitable vector software you can follow these guidelines to make your own UV Varnish art.

Important things to remember

- Do not Spot UV small text, thin lines (< 0.25mm), or finely detailed art.
- All Spot UV elements must be identical to the rest of the art (size, orientation, crop marks, image position, and text).

EXAMPLE - Double sided (2 page) business card

- ① **CREATE** your business card (see How to Business Card for art specs)



- ② **CREATE** the Spot UV version: Create a TOP LAYER named SPOT UV. Duplicate the original and place the duplicate on this layer. Make sure it EXACTLY aligns to the original (use “Paste in Place”). Delete the NON Spot UV elements.

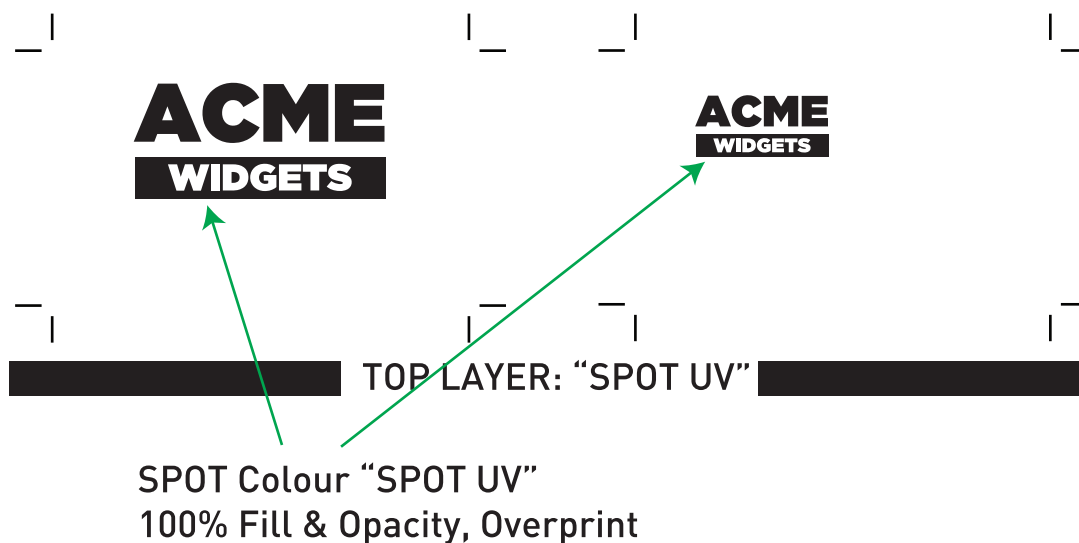


- ③ **CREATE** a NEW COLOUR SWATCH and name it “**SPOT UV**”. Set colour type to “Spot” and colour mode to “CMYK”. Use 100% Black. This process will be **different in different applications**. Below are the steps for Adobe Illustrator.

In the **Swatches panel**, Ctrl-click (Windows) or Command-click (Mac OS) the **New Swatch button**, or select **New Swatch** from the panel menu. In the dialog box that appears, name it **SPOT UV**. Set Color Type to “spot” and colour mode to “CMYK.” Set additional swatch options to 100% Black and click OK.

It is **CRITICAL** that the spot colour name be exactly “**SPOT UV**” (same capitals and spacing, no quote marks), otherwise our software will not know what colour is set to print in Spot UV. It is **also critical** that the colour be set to spot, and 100% black. Each spot UV element **must** be set to OVERPRINT.

- ④ **APPLY** the new Spot UV colour to all Spot UV elements.



How to set OVERPRINT in Illustrator:

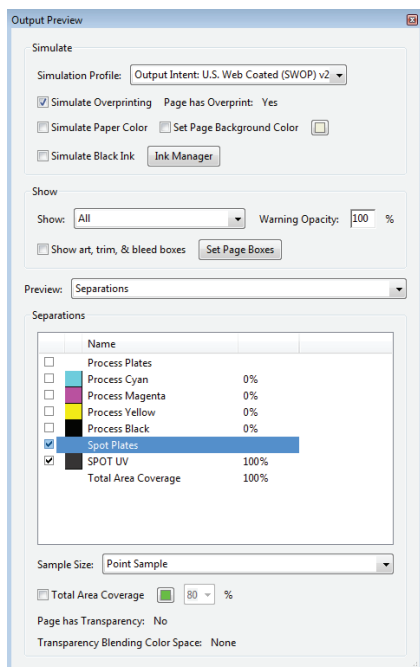
Select the object or objects that you want to overprint. In the Attributes panel, select Overprint Fill, Overprint Stroke, or both.

5 MAKE PDF PRINT READY FILE

Make a PDF, a PDF/X-1a if possible. There are many settings and defaults depending on your software. NORMALLY we need a CMYK only file, but because the Spot UV colour is treated like a Spot colour, you must make a PDF with CMYK and SPOT colour.

- FONTS** embedded (or converted to Curves/Paths/Outlines)
- IMAGES** 600 to 300ppi (less resolution and they will print fuzzy and blocky)
- CMYK and Spot Colour** (normally CMYK only, but the SPOT UV colour is a Spot Colour)
- FLATTEN** transparencies (or you will get odd stripes/blocks)
- BLEED** 3mm, and 3mm Safe Area away from edge for text
- TRIM BOX** (for bleed jobs) - set to final cut size (or your job will cut wrong)

PRINT READY PDF with ART and SPOT UV LAYERS



CHECK the spot UV page(s) in the finished PDF
 In Acrobat Pro, go to Output Preview and turn off the CMYK inks. Make sure “Simulate Overprint” is turned ON.

