

Large Format Printing (“lfp”) at SCC

All large format documents have to be send via COPS (www.scc.kit.edu/cops) to the [central large format color printers](#) of **PRINT & plot** at Campus North or South. Gramgages of 130g/m² coated plain or 190g/m² semi-gloss photo paper are available.

Requirements

These printers are accessible to KIT-staff, KIT-“Gäste & Partner“ (associate partners) (account typ “ab1234“) and students (**only at Campus South**, account typ “uabcd“).

Reassignment of an account (e. g. change to another KIT-organization / change from assoc. partner to KIT-staff) might result in absence of the lfps in COPS’ device selection menu. To regain access, reset your **password** at my.scc.kit.edu/english/ ☞ “Activation“ and delete the old password in your browser’s password-manager (old pw. may be reused).

Properties

The following specifications must be met:

- File format: PDF
- File size: max. 300 MB
- Number of pages in PDF: 1
- Paper width (short edge): max. 890 mm

Creation of Project

The PDF document must correspond to the desired print image (COPS offers no layout options like “N-up“, “Booklet“, “Scaling“). Please consider the following:

- Choose **correct paper size**
Over-size (short edge width max. 890 mm!), A0, A1, A2. **A3** should be used only for borderless printout, otherwise the A3/A4 central printers are faster & cheaper.

Paper sizes <**A3** (297x420 mm) will be **discarded** after upload (“Fehler@Download“ (error@download)).

Informations concerning paper size of PDF documents are to be found in Adobe Reader in “File“ > “Properties“ > “**Description**“

Typical A-formats do have these dimensions:

- A0: 841 x 1189 mm
- A1: 594 x 841 mm
- A2: 420 x 594 mm
- A3: 297 x 420 mm

- **Layout** with respect to the printing area.
- **Multiple copies** (e. g. 16 copies of A1) may be accomplished as follows (tiles):

Set projekt in A1-format and duplicate the finished project/page as often as desired within the file (e.g. 16 copies = document with 16 pages).

When creating the final 1-page PDF for file upload (see also “Project Termination“) follow these steps:

In Print menu of PDF printer driver...

1. Paper size: Depending on page count (i. e. # of copies; here: width = 841 mm, length = multiple of 597 mm) set paper size as follows in...
“Properties“ > “Advanced...“ > “Paper/Output“ > “Paper size“ > “**PostScript Custom Page Size**“:

Width = 841.00 mm

Lenght = n(597.00) mm (here: 4476.00 mm)

Paper Feed Direction: Short Edge First

2. Determine number of copies and placement on sheet (N-up):

Page Size & Handling: Multiple Pages per Sheet: number of copies

Annotation: As 4.5 m of paper length is pretty unhandy, the 16 copies mentioned in this example should be spread over 4 posters with 4 tiles/copies each (⇒ height = 1189.00 mm).

The original file should then have 4 pages, the 4-tile single-page PDF may be uploaded with COPS option “Exemplare“ (copies) = “4“.

Project Termination & Printing

The document has to be send as PDF to the lfp. When creating the PDF, please note...

- we strongly recommend to **not** create the PDF file with „Save as“ or „Export“ from the file menu but via the Print menu of the application **using a PDF printer driver** like **FreePDF, PDFCreator** (Win) or **PDFwriter** (Mac):

www.scc.kit.edu/dienste/6515.php

For Linux, a PDF printer driver may be installed with Linux on-board tools:

1. in command line interface (CLI) type:

```
sudo apt-get install cups-pdf
```
2. Open "System" > "Printing" and choose "New"
3. Choose "Generic CUPS-PDF printer", then "Forward"
4. Finish with "Apply"

- Do **always*** embed fonts in PDF files by choosing the following option within the Print menu: "Properties" > "Advanced..." > "Graphic" > "TrueType-Font" > "**Download as Softfont**"

* We recommend this setting in general
www.scc.kit.edu/dienste/8129.php#block8665

- All large format jobs are ripped with 1.440x720 dpi **resolution**. It's therefore useless to include objects with a significant higher resolution. Ripping futile large amounts of data absorbs a lot of process time, blocks operation and may lead to job abortion.

Status / Printer Queue

Job status / printer queues are displayed online. Choose the desired printer within the navigation panel of the following URI:

www.scc.kit.edu/druckerwarteschlange
 ⇒ choose device in navigation panel

As soon as a job is marked "**fertig**" (done) it may be picked up at **PRINT & plot** (CN: Bldg. 441, GF, R 168, CS: Bldg. 20.21, BF, R-109).

Good to know...

- **Firefox**: Some add-ons cause problems uploading files > 500 kB. Workaround: Disable add-ons in "Firefox menu bar" > "Help" > "**Restart with add-ons disabled**"
- **Password** protected PDF files may only be printed through a workaround:

1. Convert PDF to PostScript file using the "Print" dialogue in Adobe Reader: > "Expanded..." > "**Print to file**". Rename file extension to **.ps** if needed.

Alternatively convert PDF file with a PostScript printer driver to a PS file.

www.scc.kit.edu/dienste/3458.php

2. Open new PS file in **GSView** (Windows), **MacGSView** (Mac), **Ghostview** (Linux) and convert PS file back to a new PDF file with a PDF printer driver.

www.scc.kit.edu/dienste/6515.php

3. Upload new PDF with COPS.

- Posters will be rotated automatically to minimize paper consumption.

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04.4 Large Format Printer (Printing Posters)



Steinbuch Centre for Computing