

Everything a designer needs to build sleeve artwork that survives the heat tunnel: measurements, zones, seam rules, and the checks we run before film moves. Print it, pin it up, and send your file knowing what happens to it next.

Container template & measurements

- Measure diameters at base, waist, shoulder, and neck; add overall height and cap geometry.
- Note the smallest diameter the sleeve must finish tight on; that sets required shrink.
- Request our layflat template built from those numbers before design starts.
- Flag anything unusual: recessed panels, embossing, handles, off-round sections.

Distortion zones & live copy

- Design on the template's marked zones: low shrink at the body, high at shoulder and neck.
- Keep barcodes, legal copy, and nutrition panels in the calmest band.
- Rotate barcodes so bars run around the container in curved zones.
- Hold body text near 6 pt or larger in calm zones; go bigger and bolder in high-shrink zones.
- Add stroke weight to reversed-out type; thin strokes close up as film compresses.

Seam & overlap placement

- The vertical seam typically claims a strip of several millimeters; the template marks it.
- Keep the overlap zone free of ink and coating so the solvent weld bonds film to film.
- Place the seam in a solid field or back-panel edge, never through logos, faces, or the barcode.
- Check patterns that cross the seam; plan the break where a mismatch will not show.

Tamper band specs

- Supply cap diameter, skirt height, and neck finish for band sizing.
- Choose horizontal perfs for clean cap separation, vertical perfs for easy tear-away.
- Decide band-only or full-body sleeve with an over-the-cap perforated extension.
- Confirm category requirements with your regulatory advisor; we build the band to the spec.

Prepress checklist

- PDF with fonts outlined or embedded; images 300 ppi at final size.
- CMYK color; for transparent sleeve film, supply white as a separate spot layer named White.
- Barcodes vector, at 100 percent size, placed in a marked calm zone.
- Template and zone layers set as non-printing spot separations.
- No pre-applied distortion, trapping, or manual seam allowances; we handle all three.

Send us the file

- Package the layered file with the untouched template included.
- Tell us who supplies the containers and when we can have samples to shrink on.
- Request a dieline and spec review through the quote form; we confirm zones, seam, and shrink before proofing.