

How to Print with Spoonflower

To print your poster on fabric with Spoonflower, you'll first want to consider the maximum dimensions of your chosen fabric. Performance knit is essentially wrinkle-free and reproduces artwork, western blots, immunofluorescence and IHC really well. For performance knit, the largest poster you can print is 36" x 58". I would recommend leaving an inch of white space around your artwork to avoid anything from getting cut off – the print preview doesn't have a lot of detail.

Export your poster in .png format. Spoonflower will convert from other image formats for you, but doing it yourself will allow you to carefully proof the image. Prepare the image at 300 dpi—the fabric printing process is not likely to offer benefits at any higher resolution.

Once you upload the file, you'll see a screen that looks like this:

The screenshot displays the Spoonflower interface for a poster titled "Carboxysome_poster_2013_09_09_36high". The poster preview on the left shows a scientific illustration with the title "Born naked and alone: biogenesis of the bacterial carbon-fixing organelle". The right panel is the configuration interface, featuring tabs for "FABRIC", "WALLPAPER", "DECALS", and "GIFT WRAP". Under "Repeat", there are five pattern options: "BASIC", "HALF-DROP", "HALF-BRICK", "CENTER", and "MIRROR". The "Design Size" is set to "Change DPI" with "SMALLER" and "BIGGER" buttons. The current settings are "49.5in x 36in, 300 pixels/inch, Basic". A "SAVE THIS LAYOUT" button is present. Below, the fabric selection is "Performance Knit (\$24/yd)", the quantity is "1 Yards (58" width)", and the total price is "\$21.60" with a "\$2.40 saved with designer discount." An "ADD TO CART" button is at the bottom.

For fabric, select "Performance Knit." Set the unit size to "Yards." For repeat pattern, you can safely select either Basic, Center, or Mirror. Center is the logical choice here, but you can try each option out and get immediate feedback on what it will look like in the window on the left. Click the "bigger" and "smaller" buttons until the poster fills the yardage and the resolution matches that of your original file. That's it! You can trim excess material off with scissors – no hemming required.

It will cost ~\$22/yard and take about 10 business days for a normal printing session. You can speed this up with a \$15 fee and get the poster in a few days.

These instructions were adapted from an original post by Jessica Polka
<http://www.ascb.org/compass/compass-points/how-to-print-a-fabric-poster/>