Poster Print 3.0

User Manual

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Creating a Poster with the Poster Assistant

The Poster Assistant helps you creating a simple poster. All you need to do is to choose a source image, set the poster's size and, if desired, add a copyright note and your company's logo.

To start, open the Poster Assistant by choosing "Poster Assistant" from the File menu. The Poster Assistant will pop up. Click "Continue" to proceed to the first step.
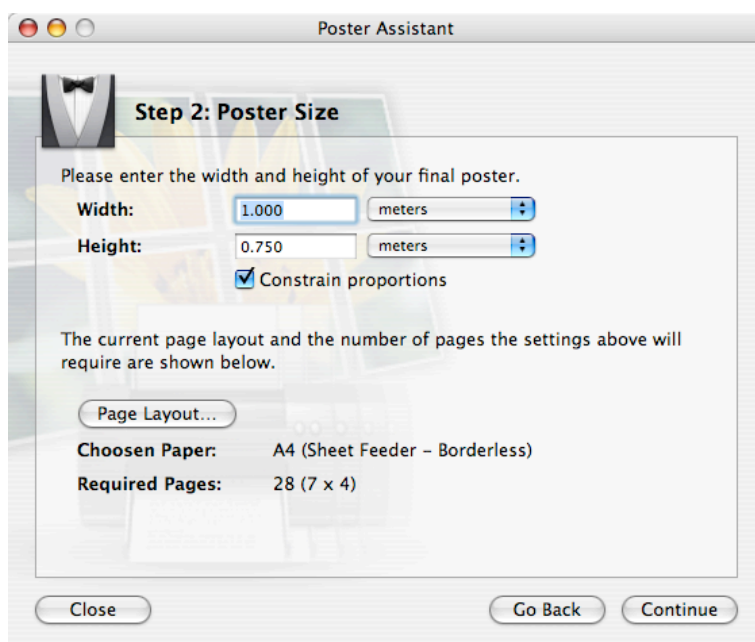
Step 1   Source Image
The first step is to choose a source image. Do this by dragging an image into the source image field or click "Choose…" to open a file. After you've chosen your source image, click "Continue" again to proceed to step two.
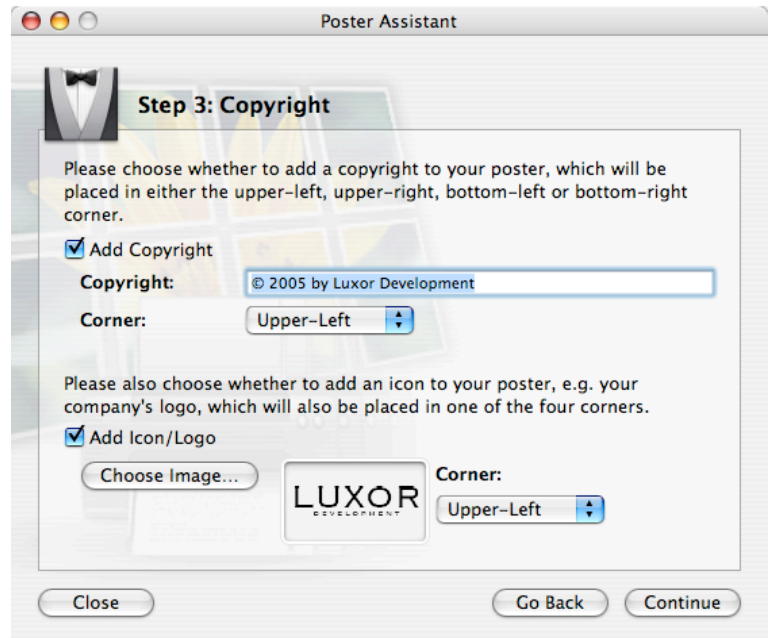

Step 2   Poster Size
The second step is to set your poster's size and specify the paper you'd like to print on. Enter the desired size of your poster and activate, to prevent the source image from beeing stretched out of proportions.

You'll also want to choose the paper format. You can do this by clicking on "Page Layout…". This will show the standard "Page Layout" dialog. After you've set the paper of your choice, the assistant will automatically calculate the number of pages that will be necessary to print your poster. If you're happy with your settings, press "Continue" to proceed to step three.

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Step 3   Copyright and Logo

The third step gives you the ability to add a copyright and/or your company's logo to your poster. Enter the desired copyright string and set your logo, choose the corners in which these objects should be placed an click "Continue" to go on.
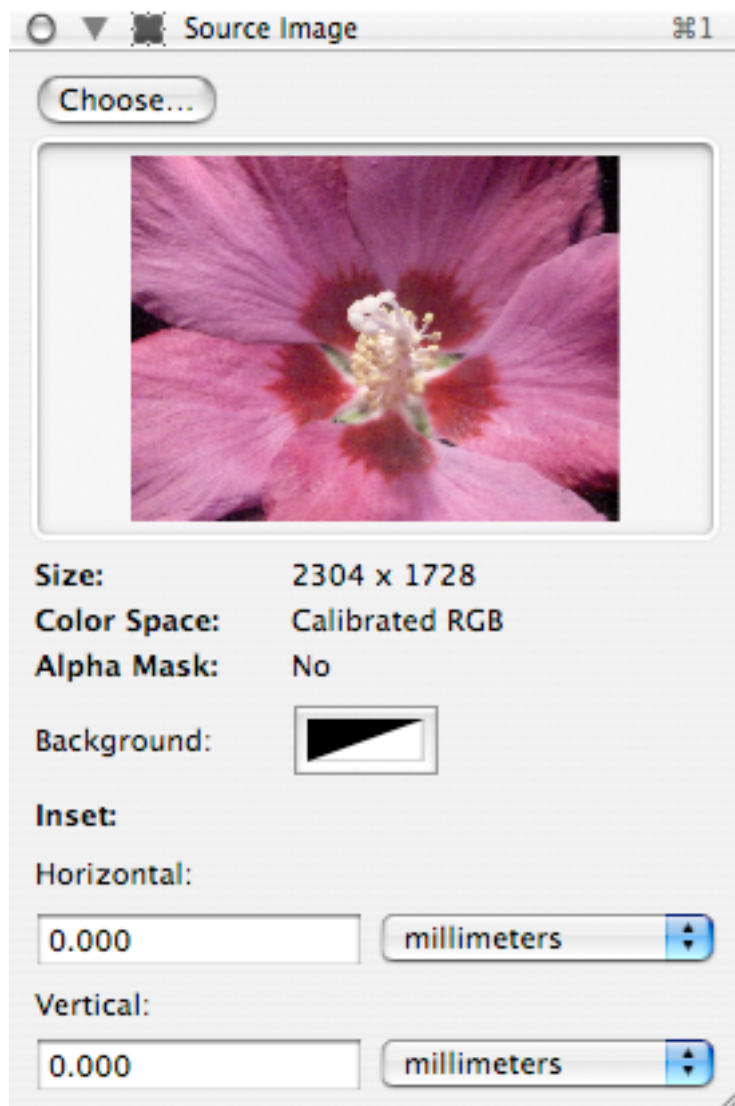

Complete!

You set informations and options that are necessary for the Poster Assistant which is now ready to create your poster. Do this by clicking "Open".

Palettes

Source Image

This is where all the work on your poster starts: The Source Image palette. You will choose a source image here, set the poster's background color and the source image inset.

Choose… Open a file to be used as a source image

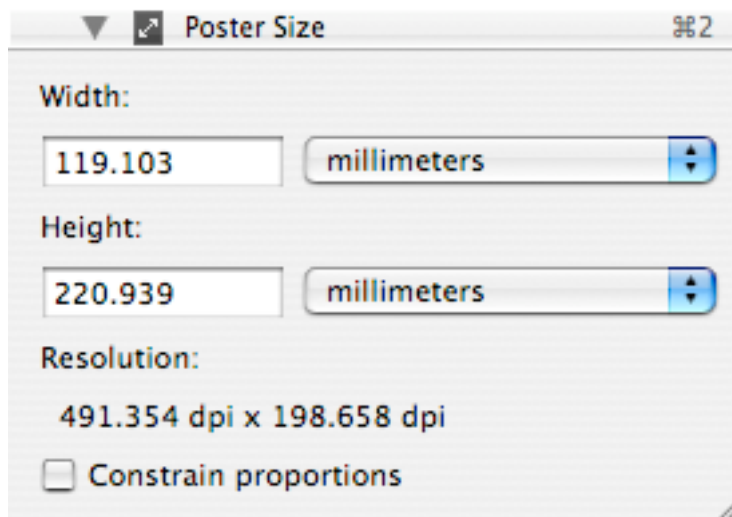**Size** The image's size in pixels (width x height)

Color Space The image's color space (RGB, CMYK, etc.)

Alpha Mask Does the image have an alpha channel?

Background The posters background color (useful if your source image has an alpha channel)

Inset The horizontal and vertical border of the image which should be cut off
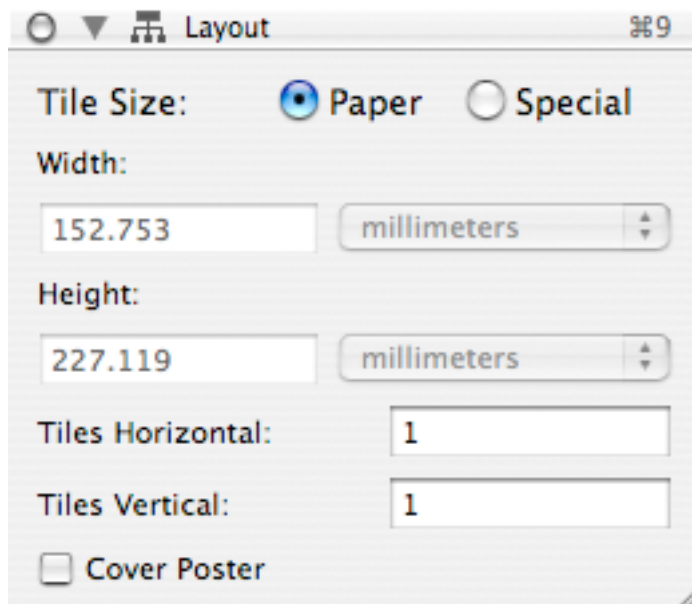
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Poster Size

This will be the second step in most cases: The poster's size. This palette allows you to set your poster's dimensions and also shows you the final resolution of your poster.

Width & Heigh The poster's dimensions

Resolution The final poster resolution (using the chosen poster image) in dots per inch.

Constrain Proportions Keeps the poster's dimensions relative to the source image's proportions.

Layout

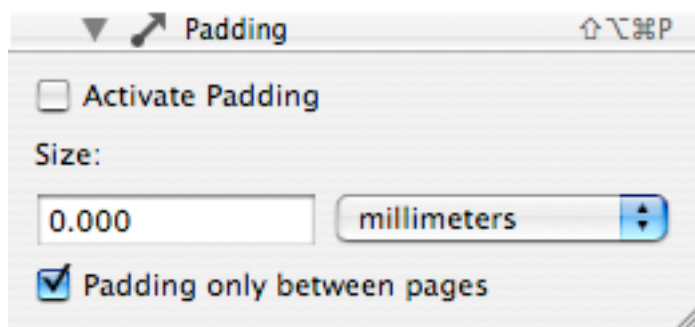In the Layout palette you specify the tiles your poster should be split up in.

Tile Size Sets whether the tile's size should automatically be the selected paper's or a special size

Width & Height The special tile size (only available if "Special" has been chosen as Tile Size)

Tiles Horizontal & Vertical The horizontal and vertical number of tiles

Cover Poster If activated chooses the number of tiles automatically, so the whole poster is covered
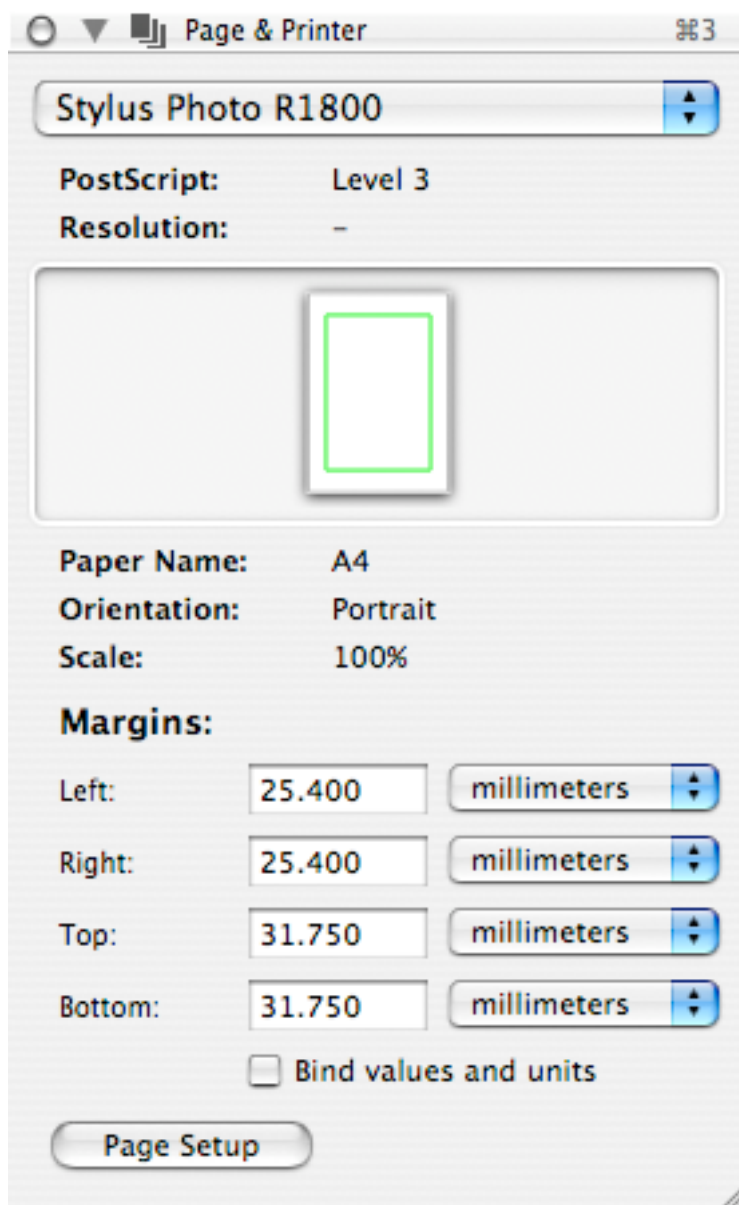
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Padding

This function allows you to add spacing between your tiles.

Size The size of the padding, i.e. the distance between the tiles

Padding only between pages If activated, the only place where space gets added is between the tiles, and not between a tile and the poster's border

Page & Printer

The Page & Printer palette allows you to set printer specific attributes such as the paper, the paper's margins and the printer itself.

PostScript Shows the PostScript level of the selected printer

Resolution Shows the selected printer's resolution (if available)

Paper Name The selected paper's name

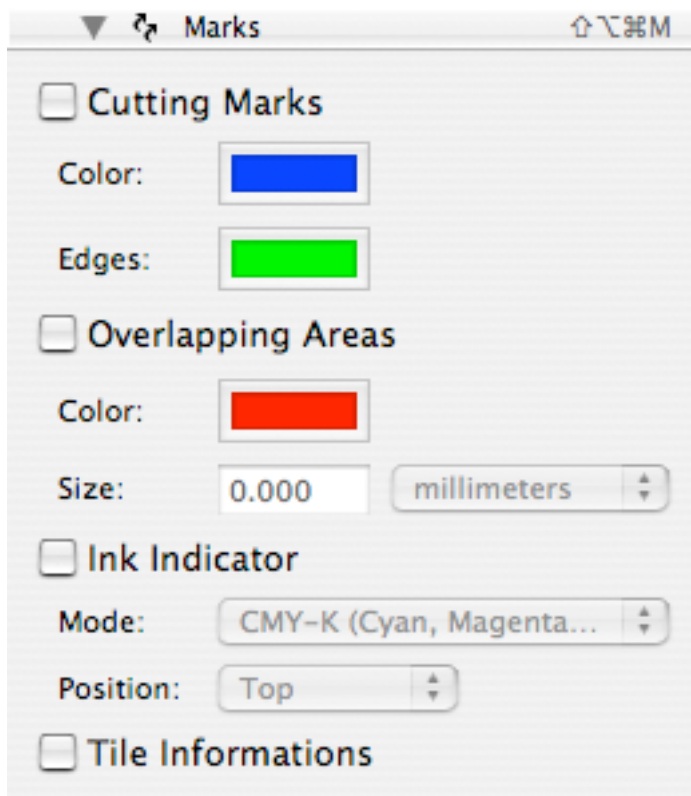**Orientation** The papers orientation (portrait or landscape)

Scale The selected output scale

Margins The printing margins. If "Bind values and units" is activated, all four margins will be equal

Page Setup Shows the page setup dialog

The paper preview below the printer settings shows the size and orientation of the selected paper, the maximum printable area (gray) and the poster's area defined by the margins (green).

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Marks

This palette allows you to add useful marks to the poster's tiles such as cutting marks, overlapping areas, ink indicators and informations about the current tile.
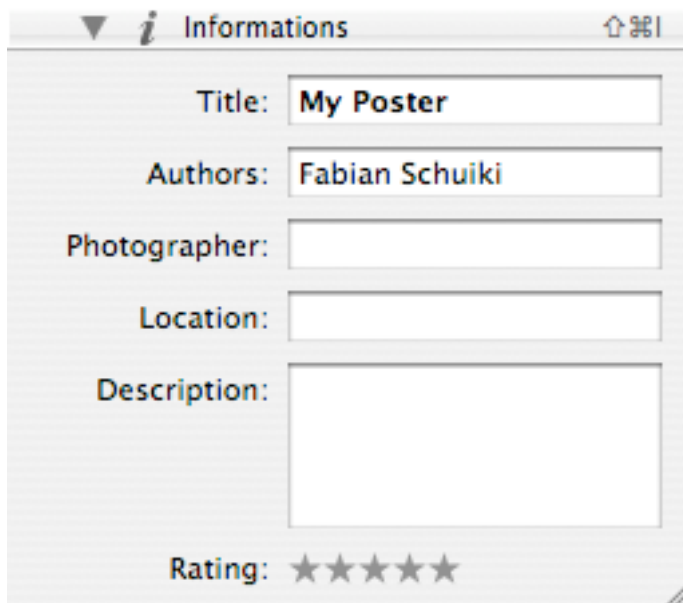
Cutting Marks Four crosses mark the edges of the tile. "Color" specifies the color of the normal marks, "Edges" the color of those marks which also represent the poster's border.

Overlapping Areas This is very useful when you stick together your tiles. "Color" sets the color of the marks which will specify the overlapping areas. "Size" sets their size.

Ink Indicator This will add a gradient for each color you chosen to your tile.

Tile Informations Adds a note to each page which contains informations about the tile. You may change the informations this note contains in the preferences.
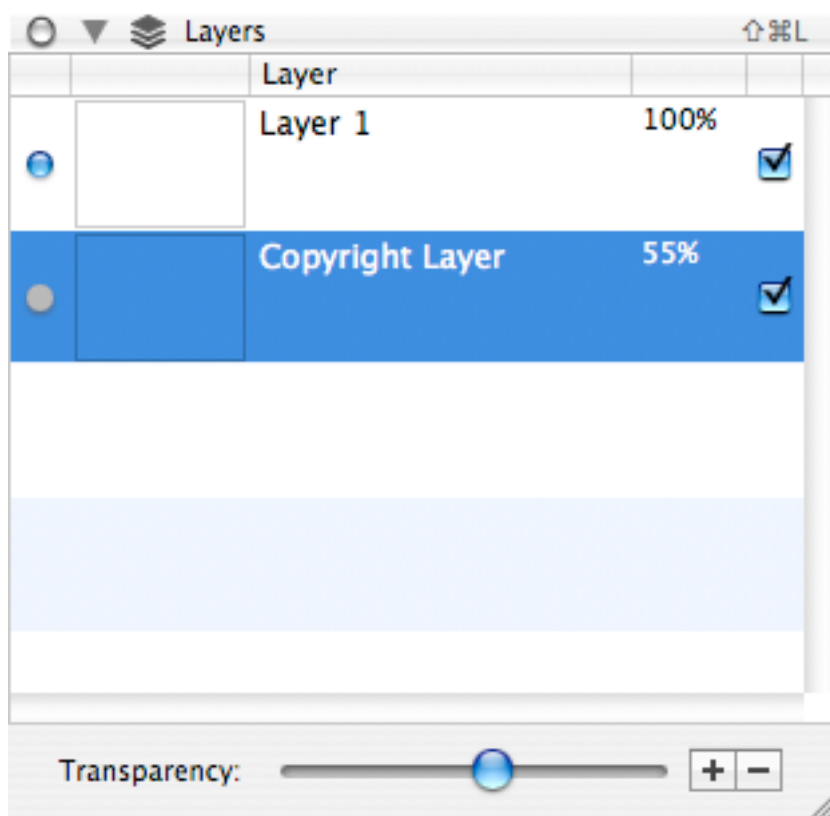
Informations

The informations enter in this palette will not affect your poster at all. They're used by Spotlight.

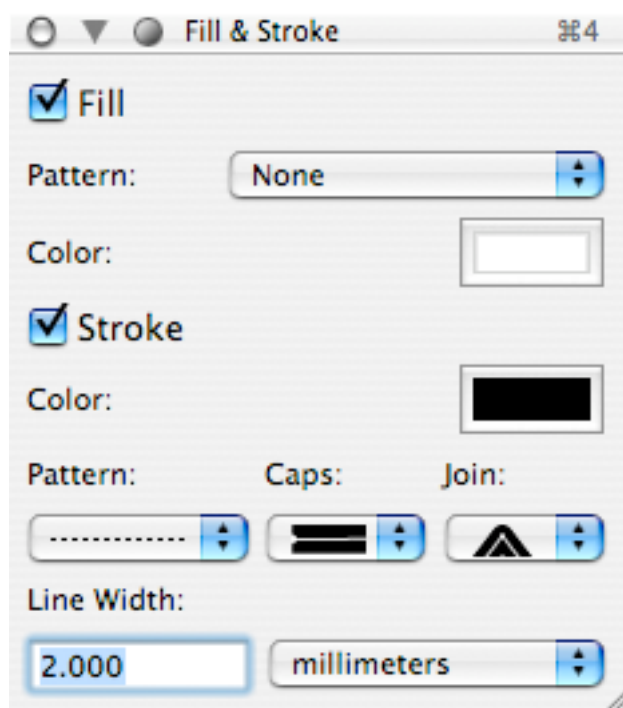**Rating** This field is only available in Mac OS X 10.4 Tiger.

Layers

This palette shows the layers of your poster. The list shows a preview of the layer, the layer's name, it's transparency and whether it's visible or not. The list also marks the layer currently selected for editing with a blue bubble.

Transparency Sets the transparency of the selected layer

Add & Remove Adds a new layer or removes the selected one

Fill & Stroke

Poster Print allows you to add layout objects such as text or images to your poster. This palette gives you the ability to set the fill and stroke properties of these objects.
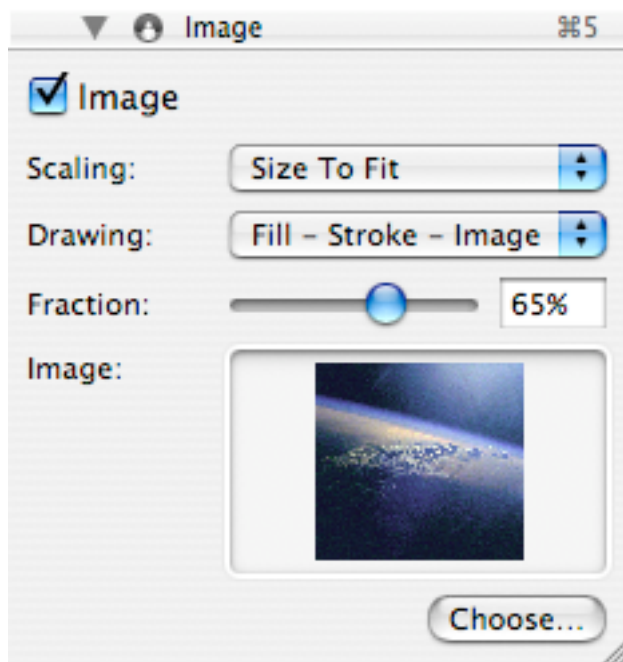
Fill If activated, fills the selected object

Pattern Sets the fill pattern, if "None" is selected, the object will be filled with a solid color

Stroke If activated, draws a border around the selected object

Pattern, Caps & Join Sets the border's pattern and it's drawing properties.

Line Width Specifies the borders width

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Image

The Image palette allows you to fill an object with an image.
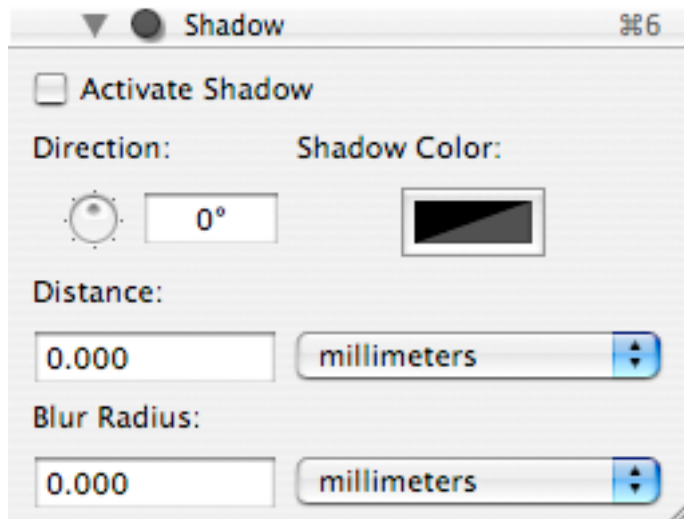
Image If activated, draws an image within the selected object

Scaling Specifies how the image should be scaled

Drawing Sets whether the fill color and/or the border should be drawn above or below the image

Fraction Sets the image's transparency

Shadow

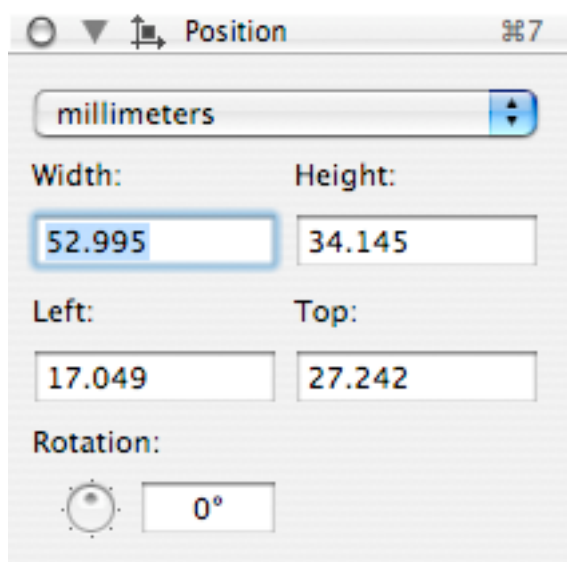This palette lets you set if and how the selected object should throw a shadow.

Activate Shadow If activated, the selected object will throw a shadow

Direction The shadow's direction

Distance The distance of the object to the shadow

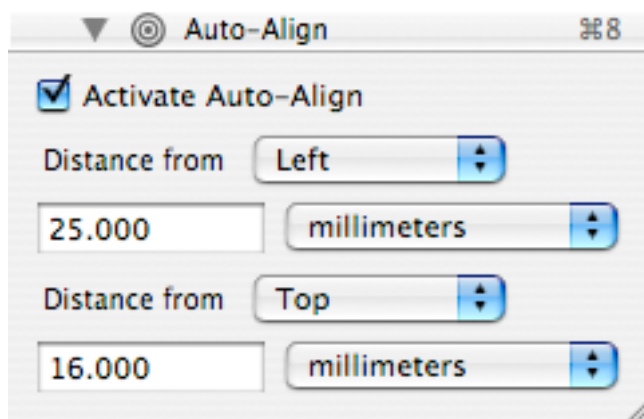**Blur Radius** Sets how blurred the shadow should be

Position

This palette allows you to set the position of the selected object exactly.

Width, Height, Left & Top Sets the position of the selected object

Rotation Sets the selected object's rotation

Auto-Align

The Auto-Align functions is very useful if you want to align for exmaple a copyright note in one of the poster's edges. Just set the distance from the desired edge. If you set the "Auto-Align Objects" option in the preferences, Poster Print wil automatically align the objects as you specified.

Activate Auto-Align If activated, enables the Auto-Align function for the selected object.

Distance from ... Sets the distance from the specified edge of the poster.

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Support

Of course, Poster Print 3.0 is not perfect and propably has some bugs. If you think you found a problem that doesn't inherit from you, feel free to contact us!

This Manual has been written to give you a quick overview over Poster Print 3.0 and it's main features. The rest is - in our opinion - easy enough to find out yourself, since the user interface is quite self-explaining. If you're alltough missing something in this manual, contact us with your suggestions.

Contact Information

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Thank you very much for your interest in Poster Print 3.0 and enjoy this piece of software!
Fabian Schuiki, CEO