



DITHER TYPES For FlexiSIGN-PRO and PhotoPRINT

Dither Types really do influence the results of your finished prints!
Here are the basics to help you understand the differences:

Here is what they do...

DITHER TYPE is the pattern in which the individual dots that make an image are applied onto the media. The RIP translates the screen image into the ink dots to be laid on the media. A fast processing Dither Type will lay the color dots in a pattern, and sometimes we can see the pattern effect. More “random” looking patterns actually take much longer times for the calculations, but generally result better print results, and less moiré pattern. Each of the various Dither Types had advantages in terms of print quality and RIP speed; usually with speed and quality being a trade-off. (The default Dither Type is generally the best for that selected device). Below are the various Types, rated for RIP time and print quality:

Here is what they mean...

KF DIFFUSION: Generally the highest quality Dither (least likely to show a dot pattern). This is an enhanced version of Error Diffusion. While it takes the longest to RIP (5-6 times longer than FMXPress) it provides the highest detail and contrast for most inkjet printers. RIP 5; QUALITY 1

ERROR DIFFUSION: For high-quality images, this enhanced method requires intensive processing (3-4 times more than FMXPress). RIP 4; QUALITY 2

RANDOM DIFFUSION: For good quality images. This Dither Type is a balance between print quality and RIP time. This method takes 2-3 times longer than FMXPress. RIP 3; QUALITY 3

FMXPress DIFFUSION: This is the default Dither Type for most Inkjet printers. This offers the fastest RIP time, and is suitable for most popular print types. RIP 2; QUALITY 4

LX DIFFUSION: This method has the fastest RIP time. This Dither Type is a good choice for large prints that will be viewed from a distance. RIP 1; QUALITY 5

ANGLED SCREEN DIFFUSION: This Dither Type was designed to be used with Thermal Transfer printers (Edge? and ColorCMM?) to produce vibrant saturated colors. This method is also the choice for printing positives for screen-printing.

