START HERE

Steelbook Slipcover Template

Everything you need to design a print-ready, full-wrap slipcover for a standard-size steelbook case. Read this first: it takes five minutes and saves a reprint.

In this pack

START HERE.pdf	This guide.
README.txt	The key facts in plain text.
☐ **1 Template**	The Photoshop template (PSD) you design in.
☐ **2 Video Guides**	Step-by-step videos, including saving your PDF.
☐ **3 Specification**	Full artwork spec with the slipcover layout drawing.
☐ **4 Previews**	Pictures of the template and the printed sheet.

At a glance

Fits	**Standard-size steelbook cases**
Prints	**Outside face, full wrap · single-sided**
Finished size	**317 × 171 mm**
Flap · back · spine 1 · front · spine 2	**13 · 136 · 16 · 136 · 16 mm**
Bleed	**3 mm on the glue flap and right edge; none top or bottom**
Safe zone	**3 mm**
Page	**A3 landscape, slipcover centred**
Resolution	**300 ppi**
Colour	**CMYK, Coated GRACoL 2006**
Send us	**One PDF, A3 landscape**

Quick start

Three steps from download to order. The detail is on the next two pages.

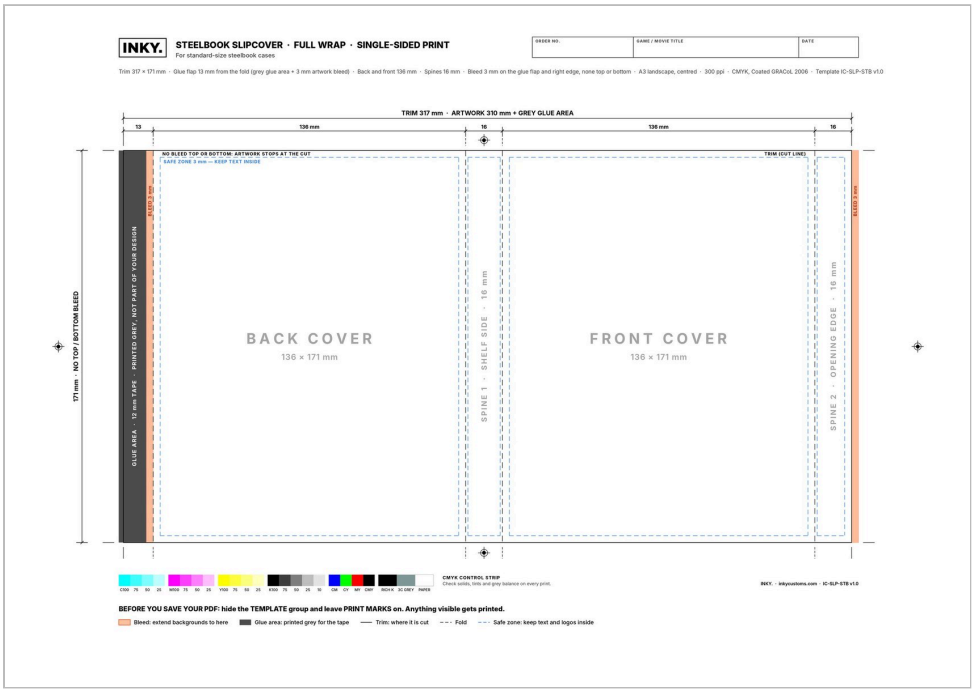
1 **Open the PSD**
Open the file in **1 Template** with Adobe Photoshop. Read the card on screen, then hide it.

2 **Design your slipcover**
Work inside the **YOUR ARTWORK** group. Run backgrounds to the orange bleed; keep text in the blue safe zone.

3 **Save a PDF and order**
Hide the **TEMPLATE** group, save as PDF and attach it to your Slipcover Printing order.

Inside the template

The template opens on an A3 landscape page with your slipcover in the middle. The guides show where it is cut and where it folds round the case.



The template with the READ ME card hidden. Left to right: glue area, back cover, spine 1, front cover, spine 2.

Bleed
Run backgrounds to this edge: glue flap and right side.

Glue area
Printed grey for the tape. Leave it clear.

Trim
Where the insert is cut.

Fold
Where it wraps round the case.

Safe zone
Keep text and logos inside.

The layers

TEMPLATE — hide before export	Help only. Hide the whole group before you save your PDF.
READ ME	The instruction card you see when the file opens. Hide it to start designing.
FINAL CHECK	Off to start. Hide GUIDES and switch this on to see your slipcover exactly as it will be cut.
GUIDES	Bleed, trim line, folds, safe zones, sizes and labels.
PRINT MARKS KEEP ON	Grey glue area, crop marks, colour strip and job details we use to print and cut your slipcover. It's locked: leave it on.
YOUR ARTWORK	Your design goes here: Background, Back cover, Spine 1, Front cover and Spine 2 layers.
Paper — white	The white page. Leave it as it is.

Saving your PDF in Photoshop

We print your PDF exactly as you send it, so it's worth two minutes to get this right. Prefer to watch? Open the **2 Video Guides** folder.

1 **Hide the TEMPLATE group**
Click the eye next to **TEMPLATE — hide before export**. Leave **PRINT MARKS** switched on.

2 **Save a copy as Photoshop PDF**
Choose **File › Save a Copy…** (older Photoshop: **File › Save As…**) and set the format to **Photoshop PDF**.

3 **Name it and save**
Use a name like `YourName_Title_Steelbook_Slipcover.pdf`. If Photoshop warns that PDF settings can override your save settings, click **OK**.

4 **Pick the preset**
In **Save Adobe PDF**, choose **[High Quality Print]**. Untick **Preserve Photoshop Editing Capabilities** to keep the file small.

5 **Keep the quality and colours**
Compression: set **Do Not Downsample**. **Output:** set Colour Conversion to **No Conversion** so your CMYK colours stay exactly as designed.

6 **Save and check it**
Click **Save PDF**, then open the PDF and run through the checks on the right.

Before you save

- [ ] Backgrounds reach the orange bleed on the glue flap and right edge
- [ ] Text and logos sit inside the blue safe zones
- [ ] Nothing important on the folds
- [ ] Grey glue area left clear
- [ ] Images look sharp at 100% zoom
- [ ] FINAL CHECK preview looks right

Check your PDF

- [ ] Page is A3 landscape
- [ ] No orange, blue or dashed guides
- [ ] Grey glue strip, crop marks, colour strip and job details are there
- [ ] Your design fills the area inside the marks

Don't change the page. Keep the A3 landscape canvas, 300 ppi and CMYK colour mode. Don't crop, resize or rotate the document, and don't add extra crop marks or bleed in the PDF settings: they're already built in. The **4 Previews** folder shows what a finished PDF looks like.

Questions

Do I need Photoshop?
The template is built for Adobe Photoshop. Other apps that open PSD files may switch it to RGB or lose layer settings, so check your PDF carefully if you use one.

What's the grey strip?
It's the glue area. The tape goes on it and it folds inside when the slipcover is made up. We print it grey for you, so don't design over it.

Can I put text on the spines?
Yes. Spine 1 faces out on the shelf; spine 2 is the opening edge. Keep text centred between each spine's folds and inside the safe zone.

Why have the edges of my design gone white?
The FINAL CHECK layer is on. Switch it off to keep designing, and make sure it's hidden with the rest of the TEMPLATE group before you save.

My images are RGB. Is that OK?
Yes. Place them as normal and Photoshop converts them to CMYK in this document. Very bright neon colours can look a little duller in print; that's normal for CMYK.

Why is there no bleed at the top and bottom?
This slipcover has no top or bottom bleed. Run your background right to the top and bottom edges and keep anything important 3 mm in.

Do I add bleed or crop marks when saving?
No. The bleed is part of the template and the crop marks are on the PRINT MARKS layer. Don't add any more in the PDF settings.

I'd rather someone designed it for me
Open a commission on our Discord and a designer will make a print-ready PDF for you. Then order Slipcover Printing with that file.

Need help?

TEMPLATES & GUIDES
inkycustoms.com/templates

CONTACT US
inkycustoms.com/contact-us

COMMUNITY
Discord: discord.gg/5gNgf6Ju5N
Instagram @inky.customs
X @inkycustoms

This template is free to use for designing artwork printed by InkyCustoms. Please don't sell it, share it as your own or use it for other print services. Your PDF is printed exactly as supplied, so please check it before ordering. © InkyCustoms (INKY.) 2026. All product names, logos and brands are property of their respective owners.