

MacSign Plug-In

User's Manual
Rev 006b



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Revision history

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Rev 002	Release of version 1.0.1: Added Align Objects to Origin option	30-10-2020
Rev 003	Release of version 2.0: Added Save to Document option Added S One Series models Placing marks and OPOS XY line in landscape orientation Added system requirements	16-11-2021
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Rev 004a	Updated layout	February 2024
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Rev 006	Release of version 2.1.2: The Send to MacSign command has been added in File> MacSign submenu Updated system requirements	October 2025
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1 NEW INSTALLATION

1.1 General

MacSign Plug-In is a collection of plug-ins for Adobe Illustrator that allow adding Summa registration marks to your design and sending your design directly to a Summa cutter. In detail, MacSign Plug-In consists of the following commands:

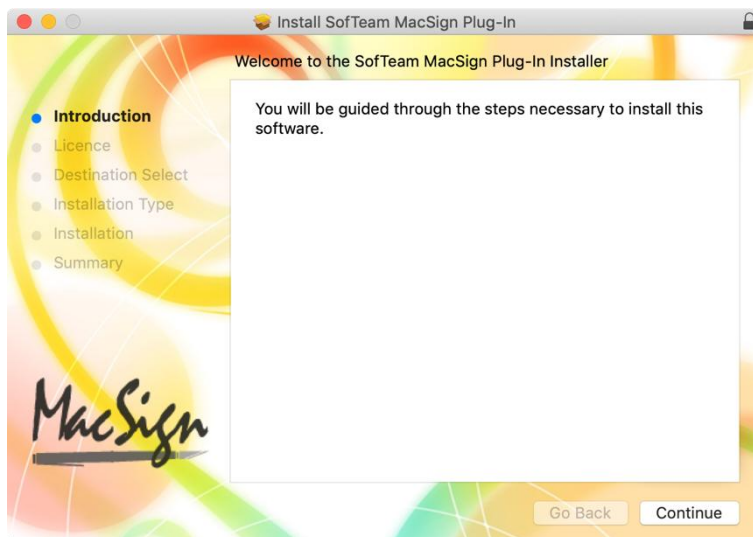
- The **Add Summa Regmarks** command allows you to add registration marks and OPOS XY lines to your artwork for automatic alignment of a contour cut on a Summa cutter.
- The **Read Cutter Page Size** command allows you to read the current working area from your Summa cutter.
- The **Cutter Setup** command allows you to configure your Summa cutter.
- The **Send to Cutter** and **Send Selection to Cutter** commands allow you to send your selection or complete artwork directly from your Adobe Illustrator application to a Summa cutter.
- The **Send to MacSign** command allows you to send the artwork to the MacSign application.



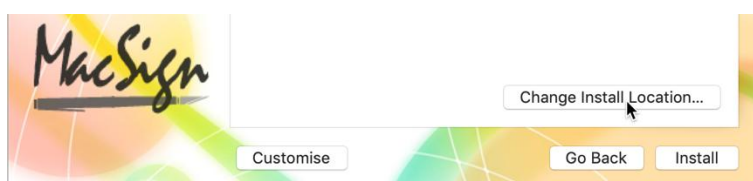
NOTE: MacSign Plug-In is copy-protected with a license code.

1.2 Installation

Start the MacSign Plug-In Installer and follow the on-screen instructions. You will be guided through the steps necessary to install the plug-ins in Adobe Illustrator.

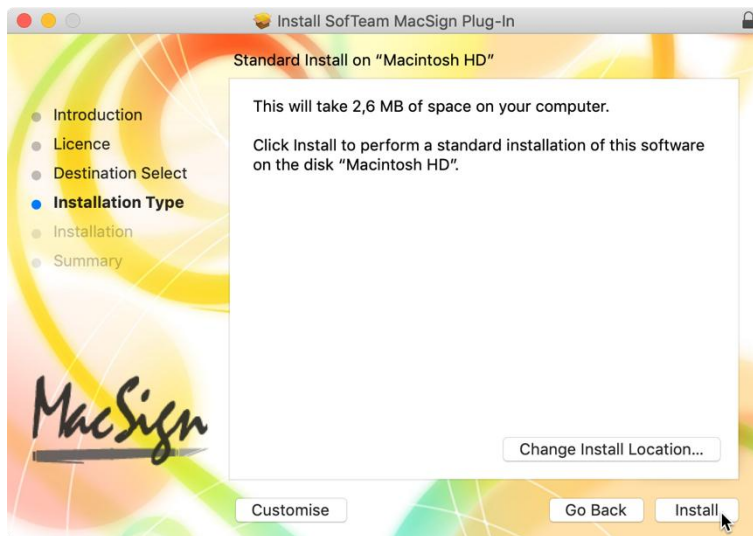


If needed, you can change the disk where you want to install the plug-ins by clicking the **Change Install Location** button.

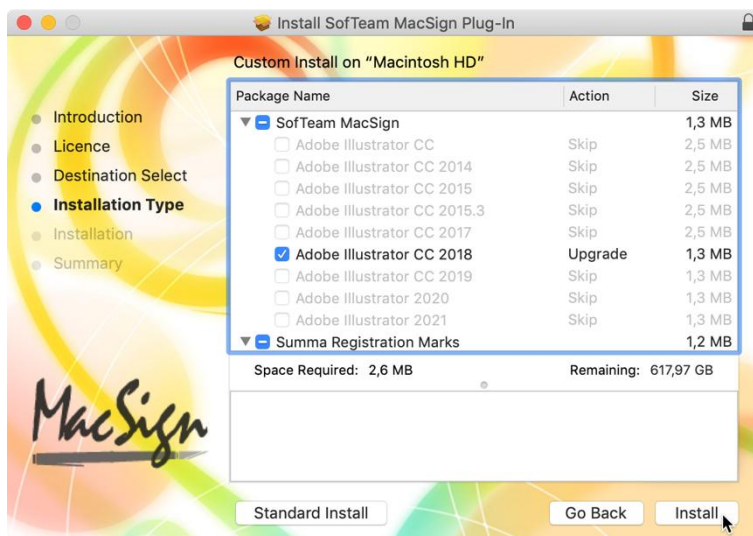


It is recommended to leave it as suggested.

You can choose two different types of installation: Standard or Custom. If you select a standard installation by clicking the **Install** button, the installer automatically detects the versions of Adobe Illustrator installed on your system and installs the plug-ins.



If you select a custom installation by clicking the **Customise** button, you will need to specify which versions of Adobe Illustrator you want to install the plug-ins for.

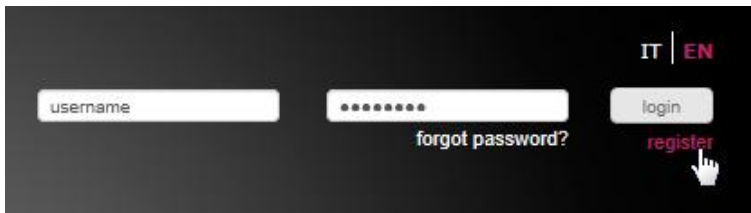


Now launch your Adobe Illustrator and MacSign Plug-In is ready to run.

1.3 Activation

MacSign Plug-In is an in-box cutter software and needs a license code to run. This license code is linked to the serial number of your Summa cutter. You can use it on a trial basis for up to 30 days. If you wish to continue using it after this period, you will need to register your free of charge license and get your license code through the following steps:

1. Go to www.softteamweb.com.
2. Register first by clicking on the [register](#) link in the upper right corner.



3. Fill in the registration form (do not forget to check the personal data authorization and the security check) and click [register](#).

REGISTER

company name*	SofTeam S.r.l.	name*	Carlo	surname*	Cavenaghi
address*	Via Don Gnocchi, 1	zip*	20846	city*	Macherio
province/state	MB	country*	Italy	language*	English
mobile		phone	+39039207891	fax	+390392078964
email*		password*	*****	re-type password*	*****

Privacy Statement
We inform you that section 13 of the Italian law D.lgs. 196/2003 (Codice in materia di protezione dei dati personali) provides that the treatment of your personal data - also data provided verbally - will be gathered in a computer database and/or stored in paper archives and will be used with the purpose of e-mailing you communications with information on our activities. It is not obligatory to provide us with your personal data for the purposes as outlined herein; however, we need your consent to process them.
Data will be treated throughout the duration of our service except you exercise your right to obtain the cancellation of your personal data, with the consequent interruption of e-mailing, in accordance with the relevant law.

I authorize the Treatment of the personal data *

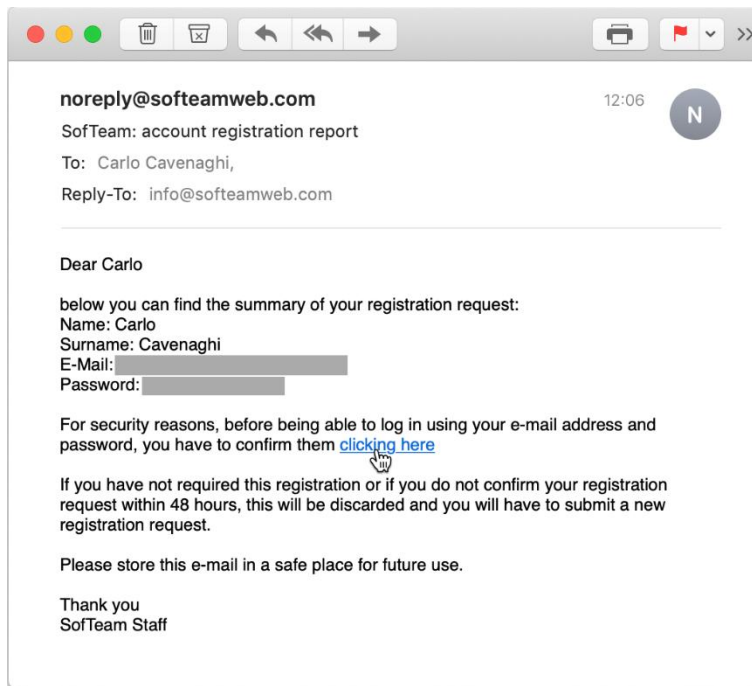
Type both words below, separated by a space

[register](#)

4. A page is shown, mentioning the registration has been accepted.



5. Wait for the email and click on the link [clicking here](#) in the email to complete registration.



NOTE: It is possible that the email arrives in your spam or junk email folder. If this is the case, do not forget to add the sender to the Safe Senders list, so additional emails from SofTeam immediately arrive in your Inbox.

6. A tab opens in the Internet browser and displays the message that the registration was successful. Click **HOME** to go to the home page.
7. Click on the **Register Your License** button to register your MacSign Plug-In license.



8. Enter the serial number of your Summa cutter.

REGISTER LICENSE

If you have a dongle, please enter the digits you find on the label.

If you are registering a MacSign without dongle, please enter the serial number of your cutter (e.g. 123456-00000).

00000

MADE IN BELGIUM **Summa** CE AC

MODEL

SERIAL NO.

100-120/220-240V~;50/60Hz;2.0A/2.0A

REGISTER



NOTE: If the serial number of the cutter cannot be found, check <https://www.summa.com/en/faq/where-can-i-find-the-serial-number-of-my-product/> to find out where the serial number label is situated on the cutter.

9. Click **register**. A new window opens with the message that the registration was successful.

REGISTER LICENSE

Dear

Your licence registration request was successfully completed.

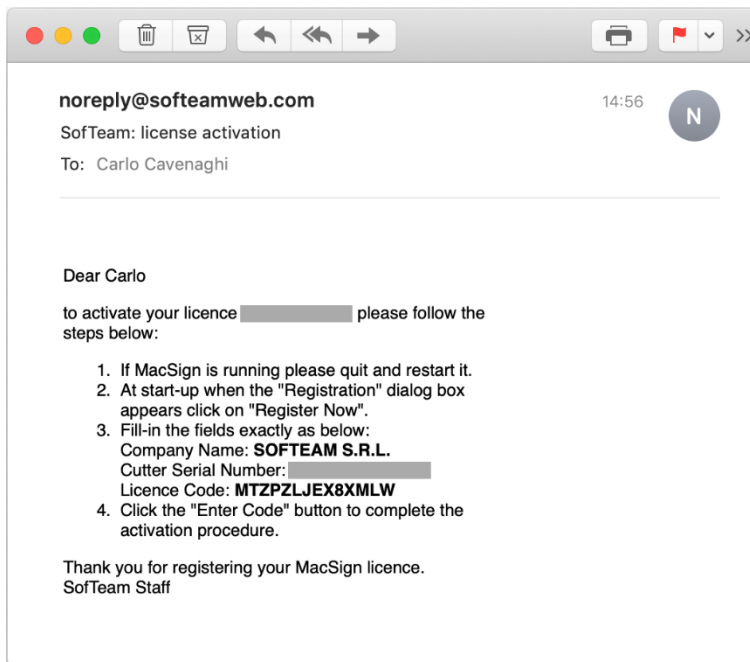
In a few minutes you will find in Manage licences:

- License Code, if you submitted the serial number of your cutter
- Dongle Activation in download area, if you have registered your security key number

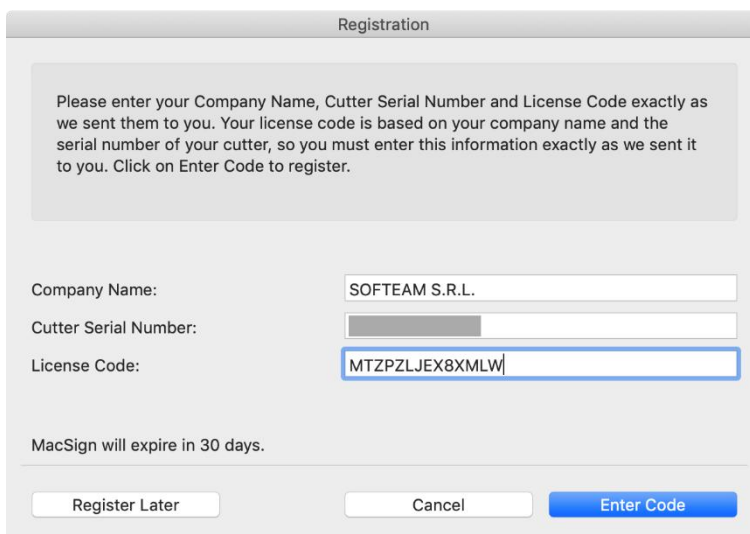
An e-mail will be sent to your account confirming availability of the above.

Thank You
SofTeam Staff

10. Wait for the email to activate the installed version on the computer. To activate the installed version of MacSign Plug-In do as described in the email.



11. When the **Send to Cutter** or **Send Selection to Cutter** command is selected in your Adobe Illustrator, click **Registration Now** in the **Registration** dialog box and enter the information exactly as received in the previous email.



12. Click **Enter Code** to complete the registration process.



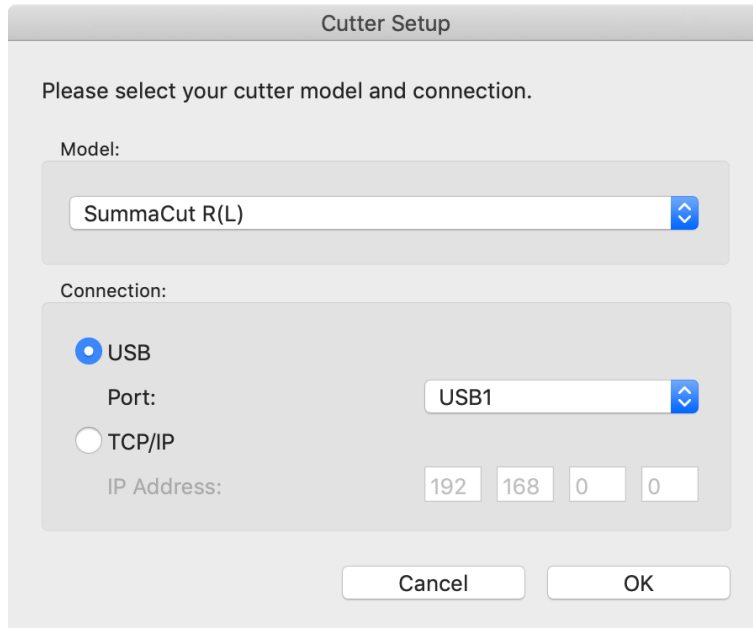
2 USING THE PLUG-IN

This chapter explains how to use MacSign Plug-In to setup your Summa cutter, add Summa registration marks to your design and transfer your artwork to the cutter.

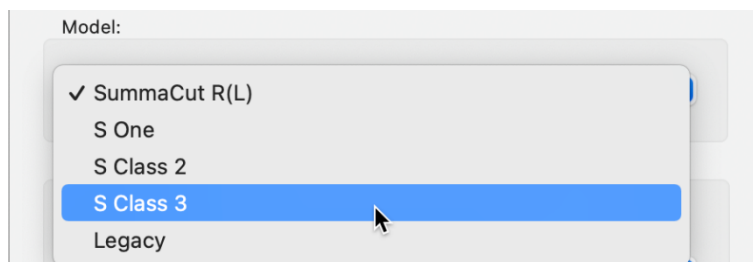
2.1 The Cutter Setup command

After MacSign Plug-In is installed, it must be configured to work with your Summa cutter:

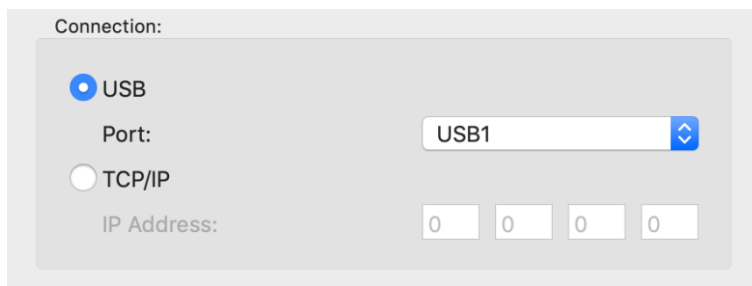
1. Select **File > MacSign > Cutter Setup**. The Cutter Setup dialog box appears.



2. Select your cutter model from the **Model** pop-up menu.



3. Select the communication port in the **Connection** panel.



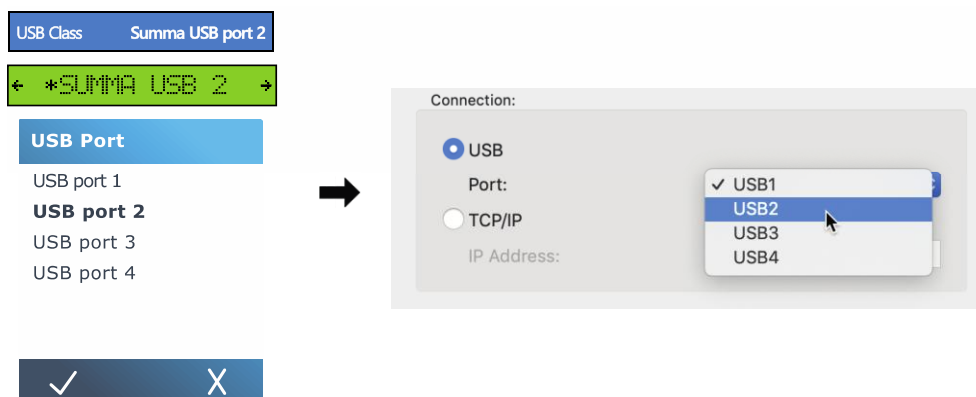
Connection:

USB
Port: USB1

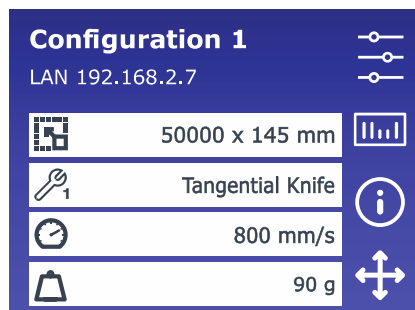
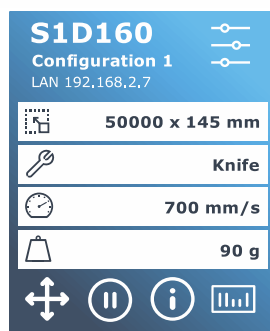
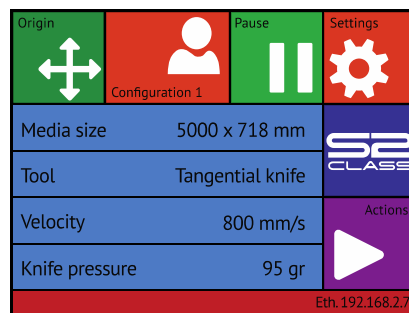
TCP/IP
IP Address: 0 0 0 0

USB connection is the default connection. This means that no port settings need to be changed if the cutter is installed out of the box, connected via USB and if it is the only cutter connected via USB to the computer.

There is also the possibility to connect up to 4 cutters to one computer using USB connection. The parameter USB Class or USB Port in the cutter helps the computer to identify the cutter. The chosen class/port in the cutter needs to be the same as the setting in MacSign Plug-In. This parameter can be seen in the **Communication > USB Class** menu of the S Class 2 Series cutters, in the **Configuration > USB Port** menu of the S One Series and S Class 3 Series cutters, and in the **System Setup > Configuration > USB Class** menu of the SummaCut R(L) Series cutters.



Some cutter models can be connected using Ethernet. If the cutter is set up for such connection, the used IP address in the cutter must be the same as the setting in MacSign Plug-In. On S Class 2 Series, S One Series and S Class 3 Series cutters the used IP address will be shown on the touch screen of the cutter, if media is loaded. Otherwise, the IP address parameter can be seen in the **Communication > LAN > Configure > IP** menu of the S Class 2 Series cutters, in the **Configuration > Ethernet** menu in the S One Series and S Class 3 Series cutters, and in the **System Setup > Configuration > IP Config** menu of the SummaCut R(L) Series cutters.

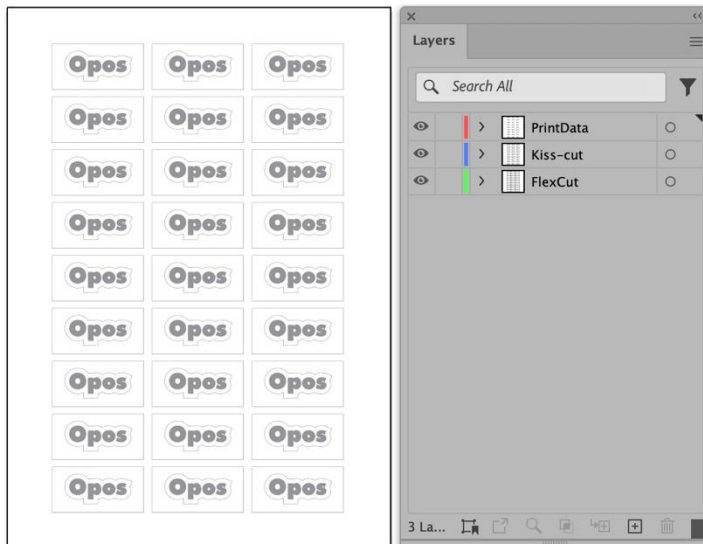


NOTE: For more information regarding connection see the cutter user's manual.

2.2 The Add Summa Regmarks command

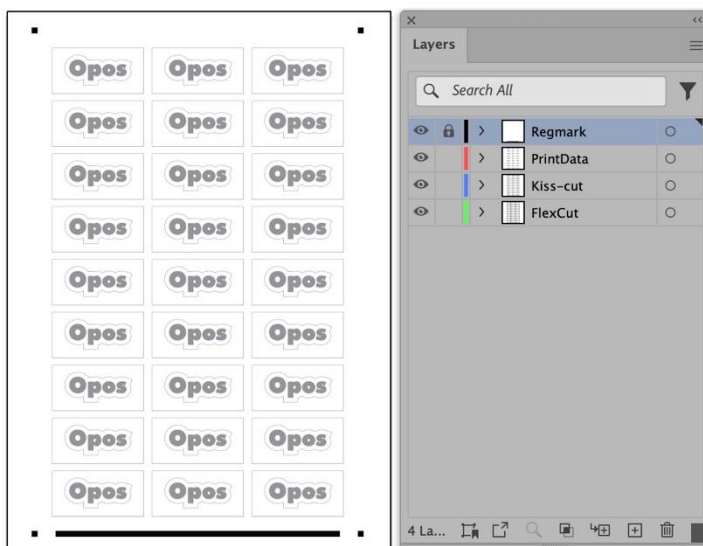
To add OPOS registration marks using the **Add Summa Regmarks** command:

1. If desired, select one or more elements.



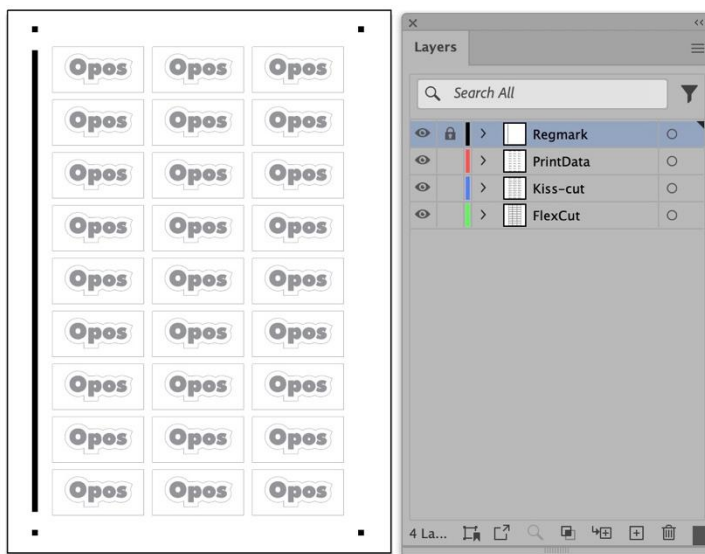
If elements are selected, the command will add registration marks around the selection. If no element is selected, the command will add registration marks around your visible elements.

2. Select **File > MacSign > Add Summa Regmarks**.



As is, the command automatically adds basic registration marks and OPOS XY Line in a separate, locked layer of the design, named **Regmark**, according to the advised values of the mark's shape, size, distances, and margins.

By default, the command places the marks and OPOS XY line in the portrait orientation. If you want to place the marks and OPOS XY line in the landscape orientation you have to hold down the **Shift** key while selecting the command in the menu.



NOTE: Do not change the name assigned to the layer containing the registration marks and the OPOS XY line.



NOTE: Sometimes, with complex artworks, you can have the need to draw a rectangle to use as a bounding box. In this case, draw the rectangle that you want to use as a bounding box, select it and launch the **Add Summa Regmarks** command.



NOTE: If the artwork is changed or resized after the registration marks and OPOS XY line have been added, you will need to add them again to properly reflect the new size of the artwork. Registration marks and OPOS XY line do not automatically update when an artwork is edited or resized.

2.3 The Read Cutter Page Size command

To read the current working area from your cutter:

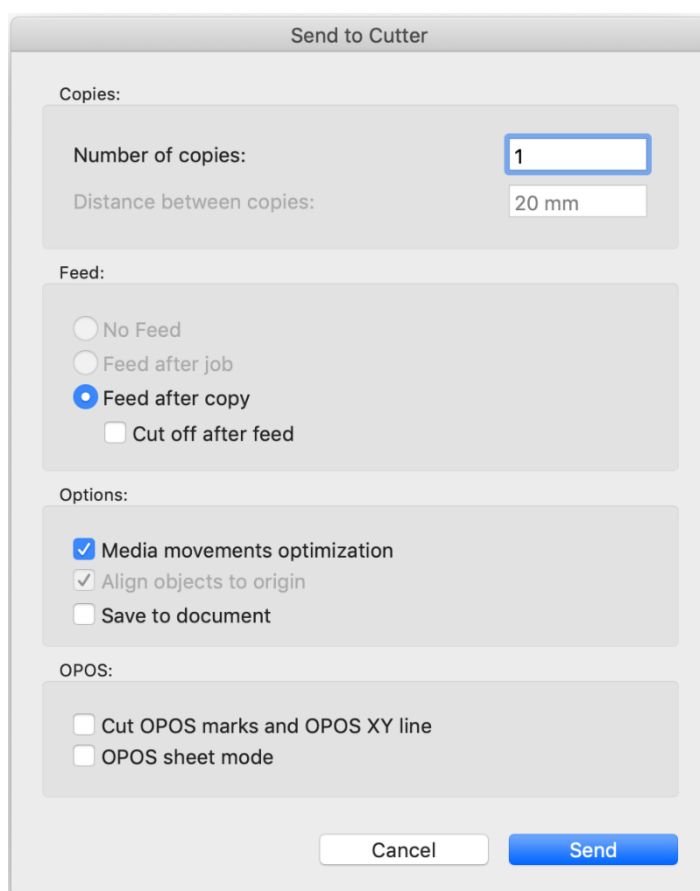
1. Select **File > MacSign > Read Cutter Page Size**.

The size of the current artboard will be set to the cutter working area.

2.4 The Send to Cutter command

To cut a design:

1. Select **File > MacSign > Send to Cutter...** The **Send to Cutter** dialog box appears.



NOTE: The **Send to Cutter** command sends all visible elements to the cutter. If the **Send Selection to Cutter** command is chosen, only the currently selected elements will be sent.



NOTE: Elements on a layer named **PrintData** are ignored when data are sent to the cutter. This is useful to place print data on this layer.



NOTE: Elements on a layer named **FlexCut** will be cut by activating the FlexCut feature (“cutting through”) on the cutter. All elements on this layer will be cut at the end of each copy.



NOTE: Elements on a layer named **ExtraPen** will be plot with the extra pen on cutters equipped with a dual or PRO CAM head. All elements on this layer will be plot at the beginning of each copy.



NOTE: Elements on a layer named **Crease** will be creased with the extra creaser on cutters equipped with a PRO CAM head. All elements on this layer will be creased after the Extra Pen layer of each copy.

2. In **Number of Copies**, enter the number of copies you want to cut along the media movement direction.

In the case of cut-only jobs, this is the number of copies you want to cut along the media movement direction. In the case of contour cut jobs, if the same design with registration marks has been printed on a roll at equal distance, this is the number of copies you want to detect and cut along the media movement direction.

3. In **Distance between Copies**, enter the distance between copies along the media movement direction.

In the case of cut only jobs, this is the distance at which the copies are cut along the media movement direction. In the case of contour cut jobs, this is the equal distance at which the same design with registration marks has been printed on a roll (it is the distance between the last registration mark on the first copy and the first registration mark on the next copy).

4. Select the feeding option you desire.

If you select the **No Feed** option, the media is not advanced at the end of the job after the job is cut (i.e., the cutter origin is not changed). If you select the **Feed after Job** option, the media is advanced at the end of the job after the job is cut (i.e., a new cutter origin is set after the job). If you select the **Feed after Copy** option, the media is advanced at the end of the copy after each copy is cut (i.e., a new cutter origin is set after each copy).

5. Select the **Cut off after Feed option** if the media must be cut off after the feeding.

S Class 2 and S Class 3 cutters will use the cut-off knife to cut the media after the feeding. SummaCut R(L) and S One cutters will use a FlexCut line to cut the media after the feeding. Legacy models will ignore this command.

The distance between the job/copy and the cut-off line can be set in the **Cut off margin** parameter on the cutter.



NOTE: In the case of contour cut jobs, when the cut-off option is used, the distance between copies must be at least 30 mm larger than the cut-off margin.

6. Select the **Media Movements Optimization** to optimize back and forth movements of the media.

The MacSign Plug-In normally cuts out the objects in the same order they were created in the design software. This can result in the media moving back and forth a lot. If you select the **Media Movements Optimization** option, the cutting order of the objects will be sorted to reduce the back-and-forth movements of the media; this is particularly useful to improve the tracking performance of your roll cutter during long jobs or with critical media.

7. Select the **Align Objects to Origin** option to cut the objects in the lower right corner of the cutter working area to save material (the distances among the single objects are kept).

If you do not select this option, the objects are cut in their positions relative to the lower right corner of the active artboard.

8. Select the **Save to Document** option to save the commands that would be sent to the cutter in a document to disk.

The suggested name of the document is the Illustrator document name preceded by the 10 digits of the possible barcode.

9. Select the **Cut OPOS Marks and OPOS XY Line** to cut out the registration marks and the OPOS XY line.

MacSign Plug-In does not cut the OPOS registration marks and OPOS XY line automatically. This saves time and makes sure not to damage the registration marks and the OPOS XY line if you want to use them again.

10. In the case of contour cut jobs, if the same design with registration marks has been printed on multiple sheets, you can select the **OPOS Sheet Mode** option to automatically turn on this feature on the cutter.

This is much more convenient than activating OPOS Sheet Mode via the cutter control panel.



NOTE: The sheets should be more or less the same size, and the designs on them should be oriented and positioned the same way.

2.5 The Send to MacSign command

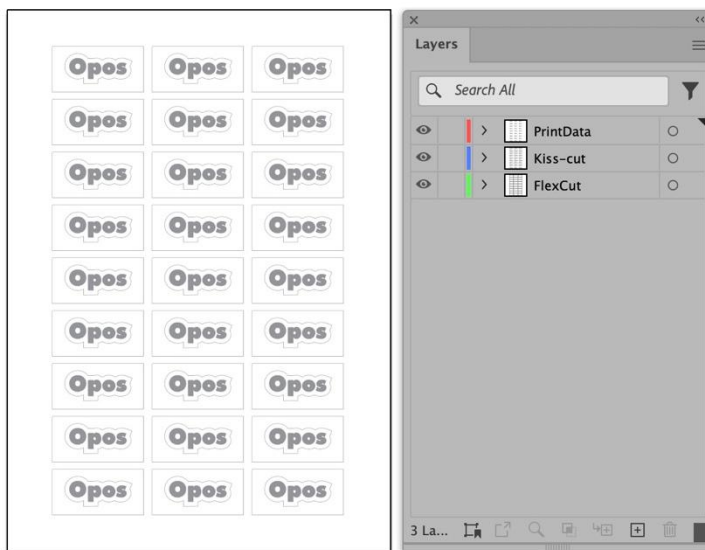
To send the artwork to the MacSign application: Select **File > MacSign > Send to MacSign**. If elements are selected, the command will send the selection to the MacSign application. If no element is selected, the command will send all visible elements to MacSign application. A new document is automatically created in MacSign and the artwork is placed in the lower left corner of the (first) plotter page according to the settings of the Page and Worksheet pane of the MacSign Settings dialog box. Moreover, if the artwork is a contour cut job (i.e., it includes registration info added by the Add Summa Regmarks command), the artwork is automatically aligned into a (single) plotter page which size is equal to the bounding box of the registration marks (the page orientation is the orientation used in the Add Summa Regmarks command).

2.6 Cutting a design

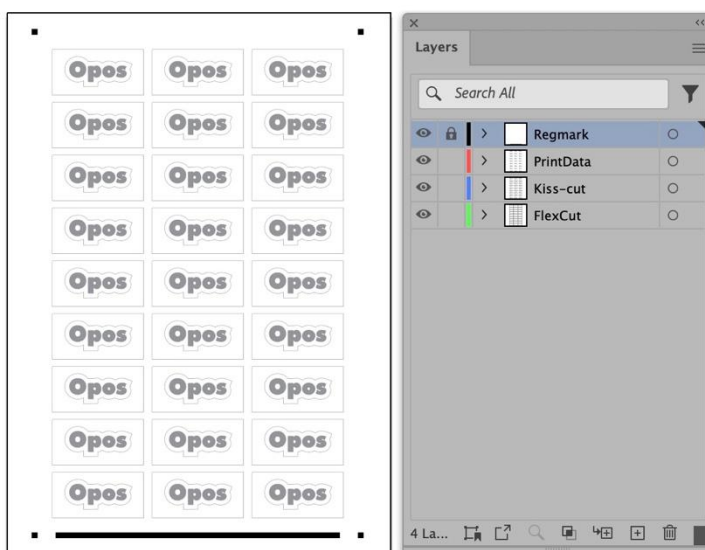
To carry out the cutting of your design, please follow these steps:

1. Create the design in the Adobe Illustrator application.

When you create your design, it is recommended to work with layers, so that print data, cut lines, FlexCut lines, drawing lines and creasing lines are placed on different layers. In this way, using the **Layer** panel, you can easily select and hide elements you want to print, cut, cut through, draw, or crease. Please refer to the Adobe Illustrator User Guide on how to keep your design flexible and organized by using layers in your document.



2. If your design is not a contour cut job, go to step 6.
3. Add registration marks and OPOS XY line using the **Add Summa Regmarks** command.

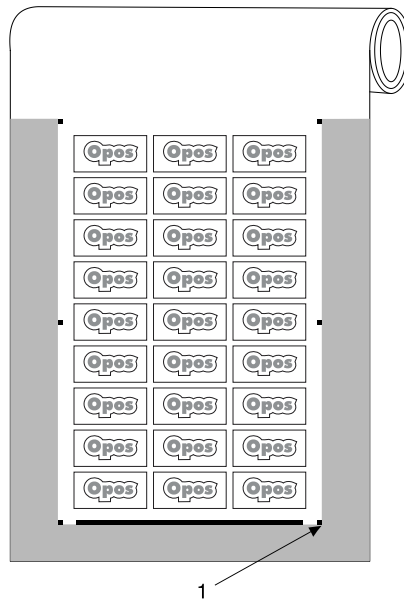


4. Hide the layer or layers that contain the cut, draw and crease parts of your design and make sure the layer or layers that contain the print parts, the registration marks and the OPOS XY line are visible.

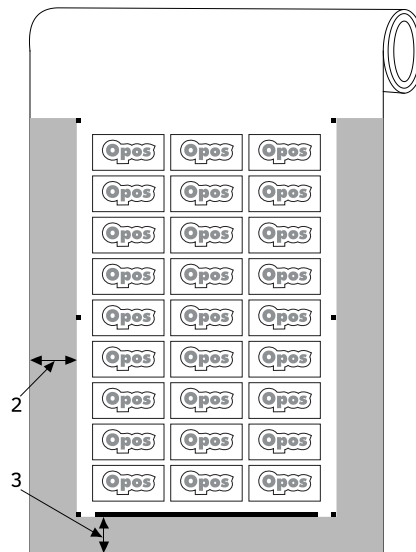
5. Print the design on your printer or export it in a file format that can be imported in your RIP and then print it.

Print the design in real size (scale = 100%).

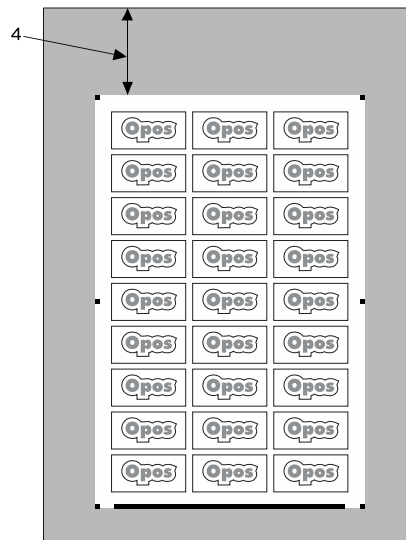
When printing on a roll, make sure that the design's origin registration mark coincides with the media's origin (1).



Make sure there is at least a 1 cm margin on each side of the design (2). A 2 cm margin is preferable. There should also have a front margin of 1 cm (3). A 3 cm margin is preferable if you are using the OPOS XY alignment mode.



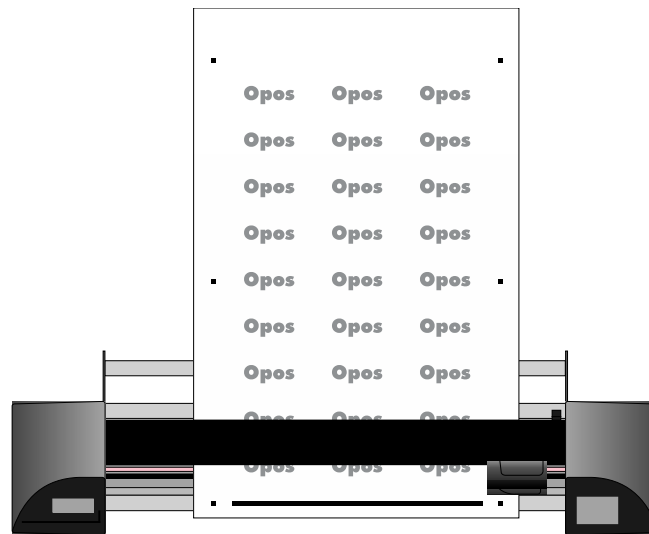
Leave a rear margin of a least of 4 cm when using sheets or cutting the print from a roll (4).



- Hide the layer or layers that contain the print parts of your design and make sure the layer or layers that contain the cut, draw and crease parts are visible.

7. Load the media into your Summa cutter.

When loading printed media for contour cutting please make sure that the origin registration mark is situated at the bottom right corner of the cutter.



8. **Select File > MacSign > Send to Cutter...** The **Send to Cutter** dialog box appears.

9. Change the output options, if necessary, then click **Send**.

The design will be sent to the cutter.



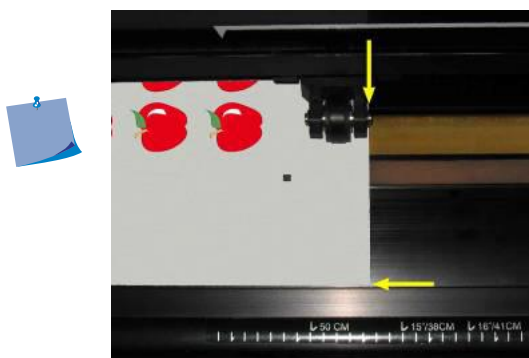
NOTE: If your design is a contour cut job and the OPOS Origin parameter has not been changed, the cutter then will prompt to position the knife above the origin registration mark. Use the arrow keys to move the knife on the top of the origin registration mark and press the checkmark (S Class 2 Series, S One Series or S Class 3 Series) or the Enter key (SummaCut R(L) Series): the cutter will read the registration marks and carry out the design.

2.7 Cutting the same OPOS design on multiple media sheets

To cut the same design with registration marks on multiple media sheets:

1. Load the first sheet on the cutter.

NOTE: As the second and any following sheet must be loaded in the cutter at the same position as the first sheet, with the same orientation, use easy orientation points to be able to position the sheets quickly and correctly. In the figure below, a rim of the base plate and the side of the pinch roller assembly are used to align the sheets.



When in OPOS sheet mode, the cutter stores the distance between edges of the sheet and the origin registration mark.

2. Select **File > MacSign > Send to Cutter...** The **Send to Cutter** dialog box appears.
3. Make sure to turn on the **OPOS Sheet Mode** and then click **Send**.
4. Move the knife on the top of the origin registration mark and perform the contour cut job on the first sheet.

NOTE: When the cutter is in the OPOS sheet mode, it ignores the **OPOS Origin** parameter, so the knife will always have to be set manually on the origin registration mark for the first job.

5. Raise the pinch rollers and remove the sheet manually.
6. Insert the next sheet into the cutter at the same position and orientation of the previous sheet by using the chosen orientation points and then lower the pinch rollers.
The registration marks will be detected automatically, and the same design will be cut.
7. Repeat points 5 and 6 as many times as necessary, then exit from the OPOS sheet mode.

3 SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

MacSign Plug-In version 2.1.5 requires:

- Adobe Illustrator 2021-2026.
- Supported macOS versions depend on the Adobe Illustrator version that houses the plug-in.
- A Summa cutter with USB or Ethernet port.