Board Design - Best Practices for Automated Handling

3”/18” min/max board width

1/2” clearance for machine handling

1/8” tooling hole for fixturing (one in each corner, 4 total)

3”/16” min/max board height

3 Fiducials No more, no less (see page 2 for details)

This is a rough guide. If these dimensions do not work for your application, please let us know.

Boards larger than this need to be reviewed by our team.
Fiducial Design

Fiducials should have a 1mm copper circle surrounded by 3mm of bare board (no masking, no silk screen, no copper). They should be on both sides of the PCB if the PCB has SMT components populated on both sides.

Tooling Hole Design

Tooling holes should be 1/8” in diameter and should not be plated.
Ideal Board Size

An ideal panel size would be roughly 4" square. Obviously the dimensions of your individual boards within the panel will dictate the overall panel size, but keeping the board to a nice small size enables a smoother production flow for small volume/prototype projects. Thin boards (less than 1.6mm thick) should be even smaller.

Please send us your proposed panel layout before telling your PCB fabricator to begin production. We can then review the panel for our process to make sure it will work for us.