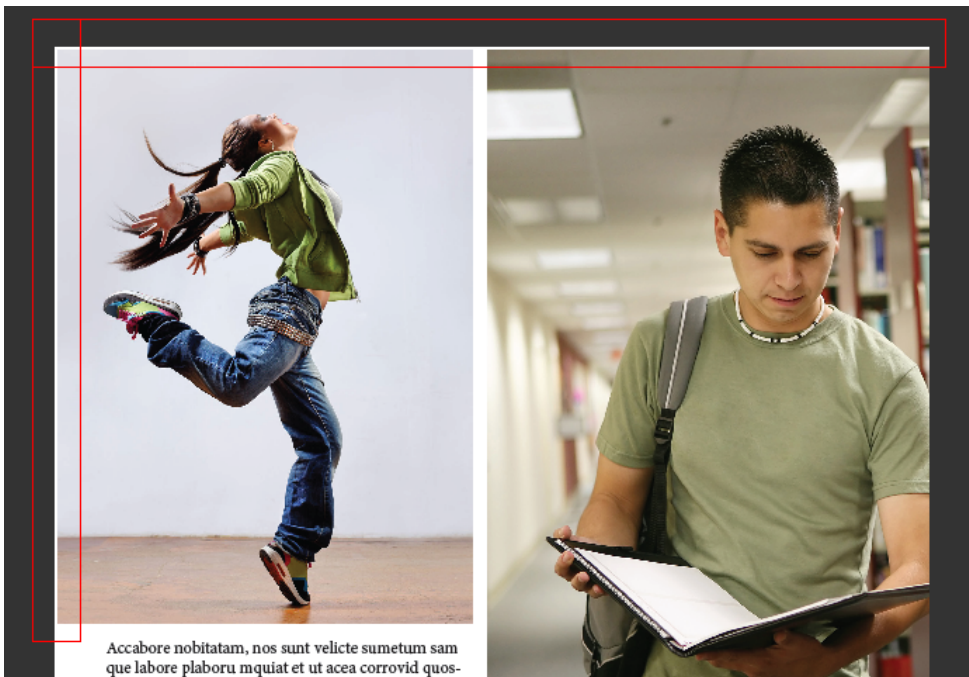# Understanding bleeds

A bleed is the area outside of the page (1/8th of an inch) that is printed on the sheet but is then trimmed off later in production. This area will often contain dominant photos, candids, backgrounds or elements that will appear to "run off" the page. Below is an example where 2 images are bleeding off the edge of the page.

The reason for the bleed is to compensate for any variance that may occur in the binding process. After pages are printed on press they are folded into sections, sewn together then trimmed to exact size before the cover is applied. Due to the complexity of those processes a small amount of area is printed outside the page so that when they are trimmed there won't be any thin white lines showing on the edges of your pages.

Below is an example what it might look like if the bleeds are not added correctly to a page.
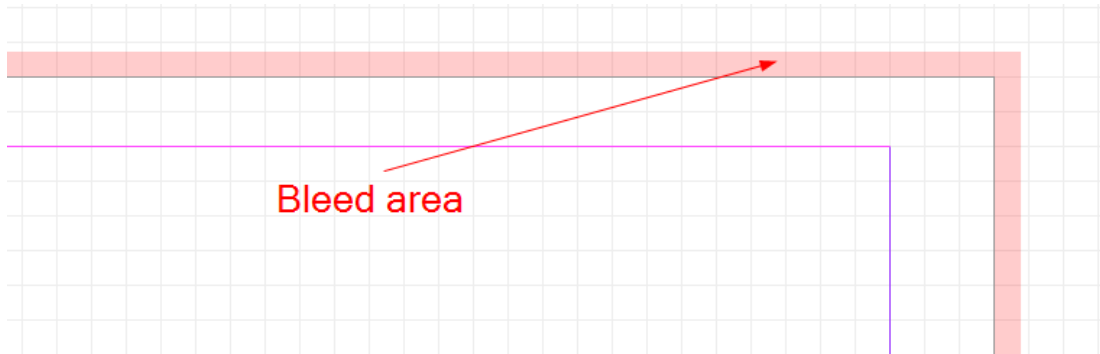

NOTE: If you do not want any objects/elements to bleed off the page place them at least 0.1667 inches (1 pica) from the edge of the page. That will prevent any non-bleeding elements from getting trimmed.

Fixing Bleeds

ConnectMe (Online):

When creating your pages online in ConnectMe the system will automatically show you where the bleed area is on a spread.

1. When you have a spread open online in ConnectMe you will see a pink line on the outside of the spread. This line indicates the bleed area that needs to be covered in order to bleed an object or element correctly.

Bleed area

2. When the image or object is placed it should cover this area or go past to have it bleed properly.

Cover bleed area with image/object