Drawing a Magazine Cover: Masthead, Coverlines, and Focal Image

Ordinary topic reference / separately checked pixels



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Original worked example / unchanged complete key

Prompt: A cover frame is 12 cm wide and 18 cm high. Choose a masthead band height of 3 cm, draw a focal image boundary box from 6 cm to 15 cm from the top, and place two coverline boxes: one 2 cm wide by 3 cm high at the left side starting 6 cm from the top, and one 4 cm wide by 2 cm high at the bottom starting 1 cm from the left edge. Describe the layout and check that the masthead band and coverline boxes do not overlap the focal image box.

Answer: The masthead band occupies the top 3 cm. The focal image box occupies from 6 cm to 15 cm from the top, leaving a 3 cm gap below the masthead band. The left coverline box starts at 6 cm from the top and is 3 cm high, so it spans 6 cm to 9 cm; it sits to the left of the focal image box if the image box starts at least 2 cm from the left edge. The bottom coverline box spans 1 cm to 5 cm from the left and 2 cm high at the bottom, below the focal image box which ends at 15 cm from the top (3 cm above the bottom). No overlap occurs if the focal image box is placed centrally with at least 2 cm margins on each side. The masthead is largest, the image is central, and coverlines are smaller and outside the image area.