

# USING THE SUMMA D60 CUTTER

The Summa D60 plotter is available for vinyl cutting and pen plotting of vector files. Adobe Illustrator is one tool available in Fine Arts for creating and editing vector graphics.

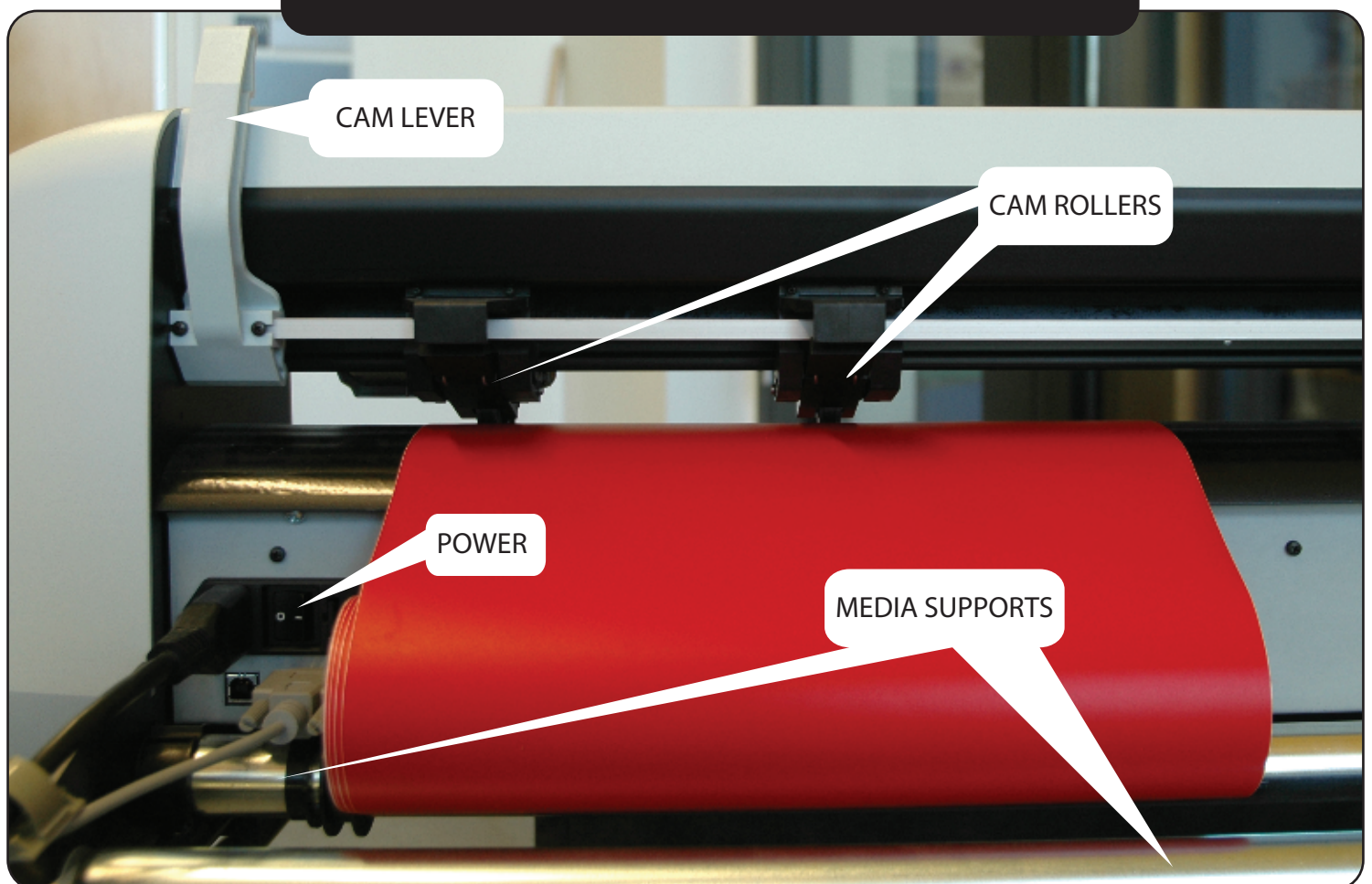
This guide assumes prior knowledge of Adobe Illustrator and vector graphics creation, and therefore will only address techniques associated with vinyl cutting.

## LOADING VINYL OR PAPER IN THE CUTTER

The cutter is stored with the cam rollers up and no media loaded.

The department of Fine Arts usually has a small assortment of sign-quality vinyl for your projects, and the cutter is calibrated for these materials. If you are using some of your own material, please contact the Fine Arts studio tech for recalibration to ensure your material is not wasted. **Please do not attempt to calibrate this machine on your own without prior discussion with the studio tech.** The cutter can become irreparably damaged.

## SUMMA D60 - REAR VIEW



1) Adjust roll media supports to accommodate your material

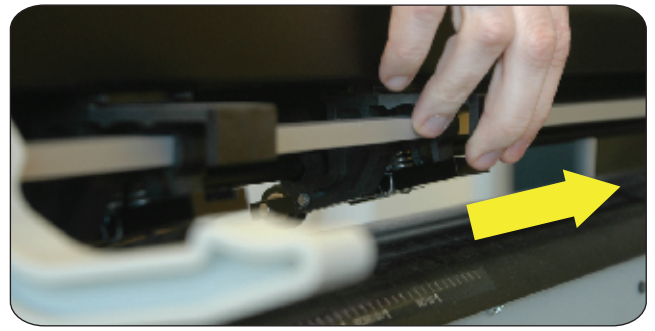
2) Ensure cam rollers are up (lever points out)

3) Adjust width of cam rollers as wide as will accommodate the width of your material.

- a. In rear, lift gently on the cam roller and slide right or left
- b. Only use the notched positions; top cam rollers must line up with lower cam rollers.

4) Feed roll leader between elevated cam rollers from rear

5) Align leader with markings on front and rear of machine to ensure material is not skewed



Adjust width of cam rollers



Line media up with markings

When material is in position, lower the cam rollers using the lever at rear by pulling the lever up.

**Power the cutter on** using the switch in back.

The cutter will feed a good deal of the material through the cam rollers to measure the length and width. When it is finished, the LCD should display some numbers such as the ones at right:



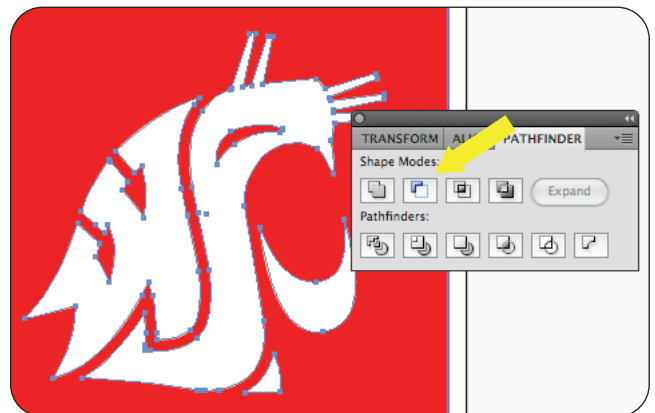
Display notes mm/s and g K

## SENDING THE FILE TO THE PLOTTER

To use the Summa D60, you must log in to the attached iMac using your Network ID (NID) credentials.

Open your file in Adobe Illustrator; if your design consists of more than one object, you will need to convert it into a single object. You may be able to achieve this by employing one of the Shape Modes in the Pathfinder panel (*Window > Pathfinder*).

In this case, the cougar head was selected with the red, rounded rectangle and the "Minus Front" Shape Mode was used.



Using Minus Front to create a compound shape

Open MacSign (*Applications > SofTeam MacSign Folder > MacSign Application*).

If this is your first time using MacSign, choose *Plotter > Plotter Setup...*

In the Plotter Setup menu, make the following selections:

**Plotter:** Summa

Choose "SummaCut D60" as the model

**Connection:** USB

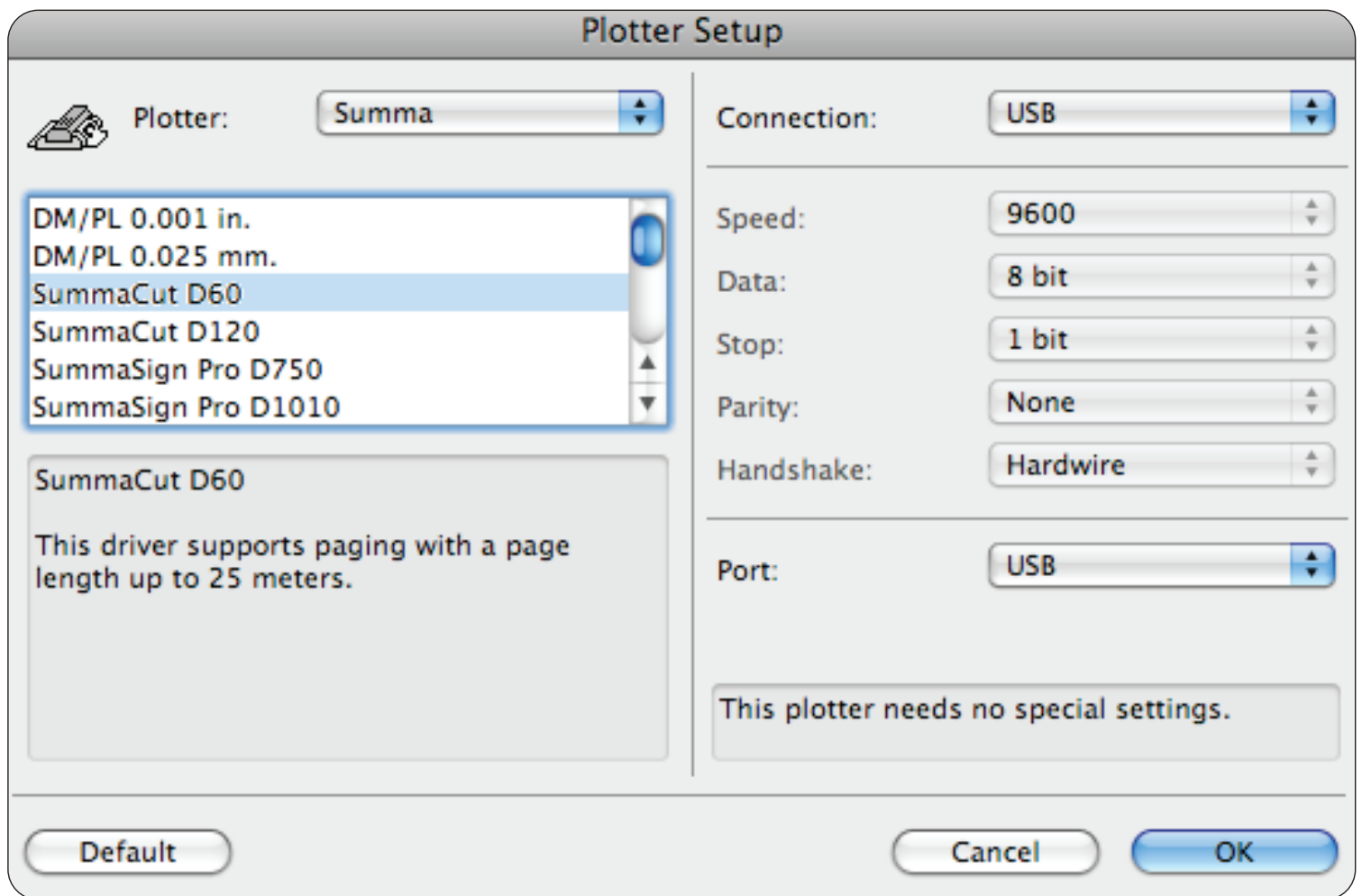
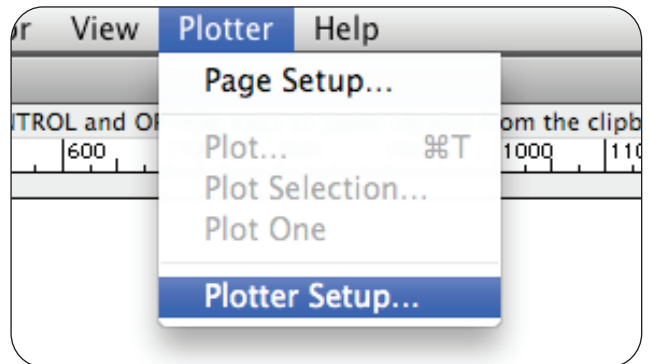
*Speed, Data, Stop, Parity, and Handshake are now disabled*

**Port:** USB

Click **OK**



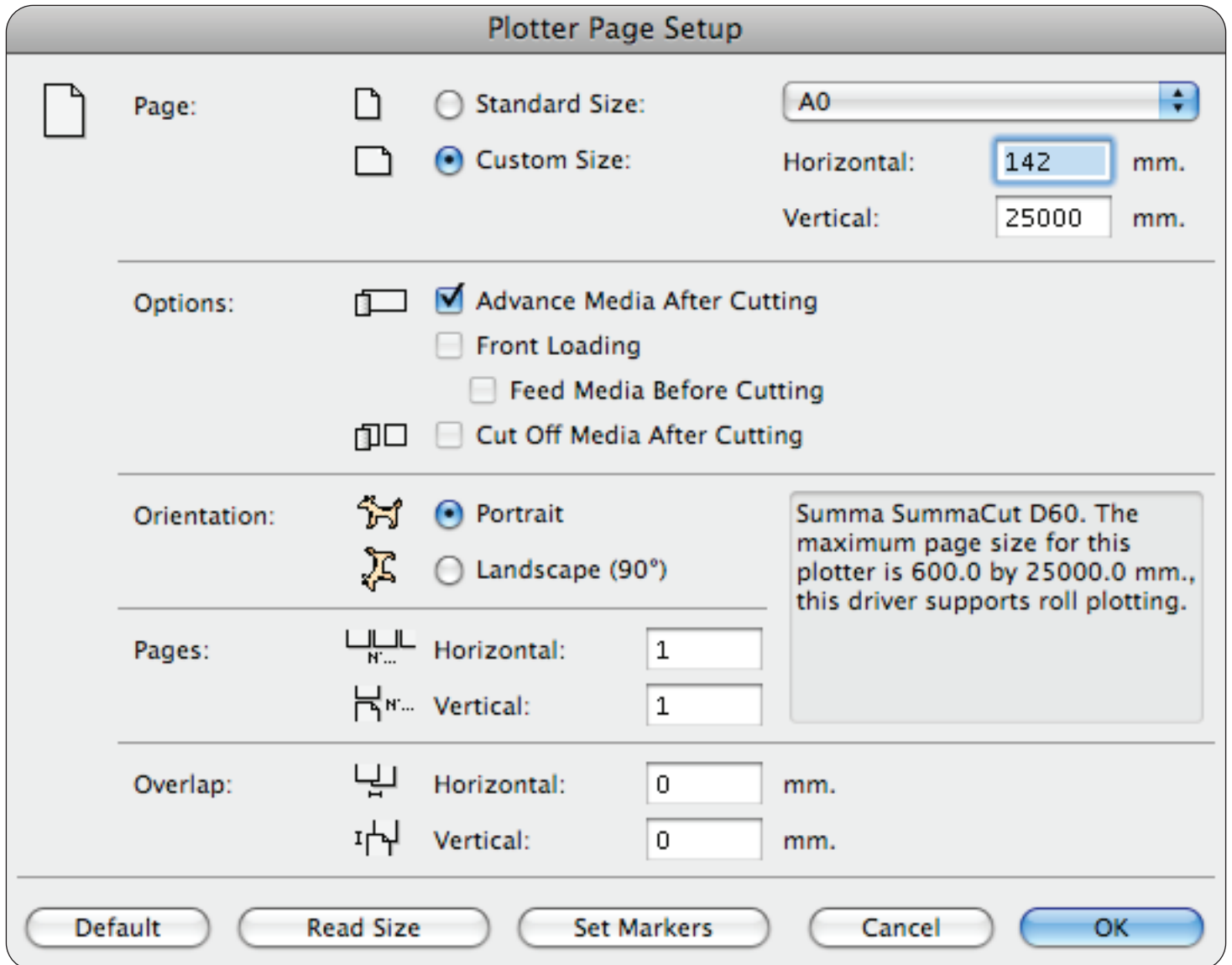
Adobe Illustrator and MacSign icons in iMac dock



Next, MacSign needs to know how wide your material is.

Choose Plotter > Page Setup...

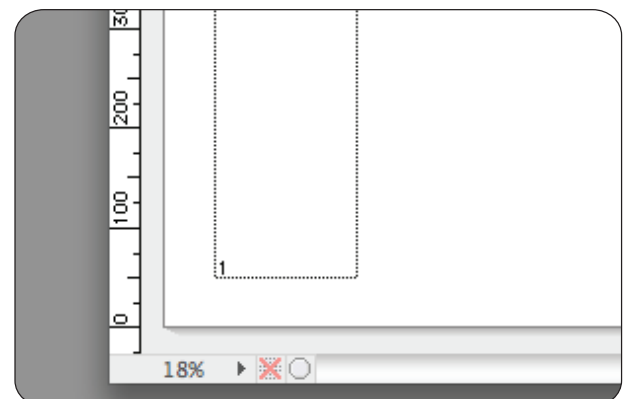
The easiest and most accurate way of setting the material size is by simply clicking “Read Size” at the bottom of the dialog. This will automatically detect the width of the cam rollers and reports it back to MacSign. Click OK.



You should now see a preview of the page area in the lower left-hand corner of MacSign.

In the example at right, it is at 18% magnification.

Zoom in using the triangle icon next to the magnification value, or choose View > Magnification... to choose a larger size.

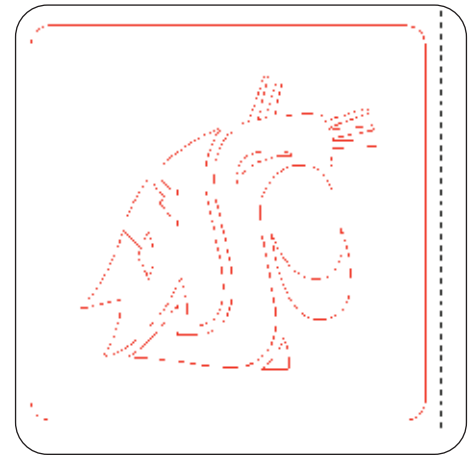


MacSign print area preview

Copy your artwork from Illustrator (*CMD-A* to Select All, and *CMD-C* to Copy), switch to MacSign (*CMD-Tab*) and paste it (*CMD-V*) into MacSign.

All presentational attributes will be missing and you will see simply the vector outlines.

Position the copy (or copies, you can use as much of the preview area as you wish).



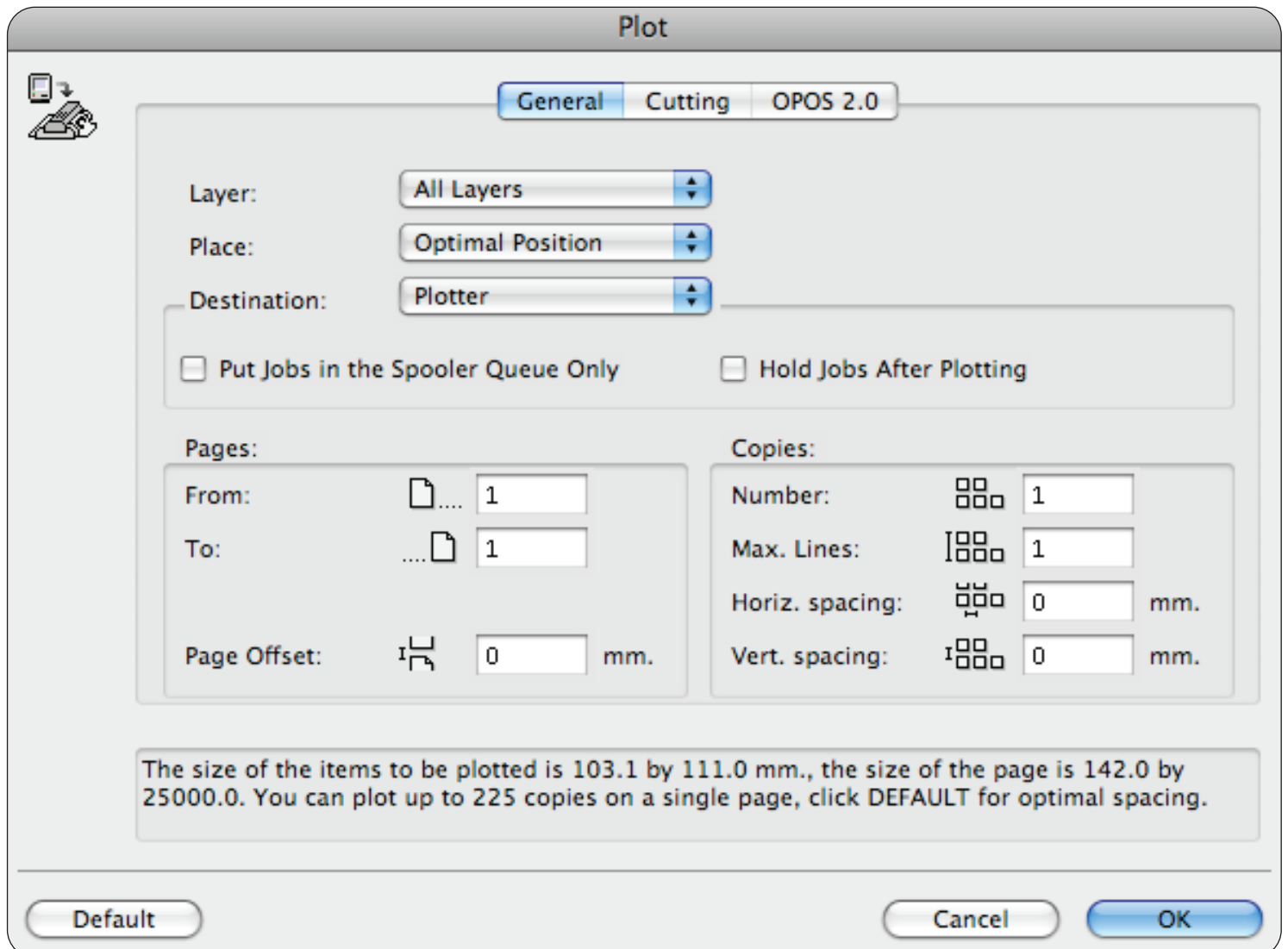
Pasted artwork in MacSign

When you are ready to plot, choose *Plotter > Plot (CMD-T)*

The Plot options (below) come up. The default settings pictured on the *General* tab should be accepted.

**Do not change any settings on the *Cutting* tab;** knife pressure and other calibrations have already been performed by the studio technician on the plotter itself.

Click OK



The Plot Monitor (left) appears. Click Go to begin plotting.

**Important:** do not touch the machine as it plots, or stand too close to it. It moves the material quickly and unpredictably, and interfering could cause injury to you and/or damage to the machine.

When the machine has completed plotting, use the up and down arrows on the Summa D60 panel to position the material for cutting with scissors.

Reposition the material, again using the arrows, if you wish to plot more.

If you are finished with the plotter, use the cam roller lever to raise the rollers, remove the material, and switch the machine OFF at the back of the plotter.

