*A4 CD Cover Template - how to use it*

* Bleed\* isn’t possible on this design as it requires the whole sheet of A4 paper. Because of this, bear in mind your design will have a small blank margin around all outside edges of the page.
* Some trial and error will be needed to get it right for your design and to fold correctly, so prepare for a couple of failed attempts at first! Keep in mind when adding your artwork on Paint/Powerpoint/Illustrator/Photoshop/similar free design software, that you may have to make slight adjustments to get it right, moving things slightly to the left/right/up/down.
* Remember this is DIY home-made simple CD packaging - it doesn’t need to be totally perfect! You will probably notice the little imperfections in folding and alignment, but nobody else will!
* When printing, make sure your printer settings don’t stretch the image or alter the dimensions/size of it on the page.
* Print side 1 and when it comes out of your printer, turn the piece of paper over long-ways - do this by grabbing the short end of the page, lifting it up and put it on its back with the design facing down. Put the paper back into the paper tray like this and print side 2.
* See ‘How To…' video for how to fold your page into the CD cover.
* For interesting results, try using coloured or textured paper.
* The best thing about this template is that there are so many different panels, as a result you’ll be able to fit loads of cool elements into your design - not only the front cover, but the track listing, credits, images of band members, a bio/history of your act, how to find you online, lyrics, additional artwork.

\*Bleed.

Adding ‘Bleed’ to your design is when you make your artwork extend out 3-5mm further on all sides of the design than you actually need. When you print the page you then cut off this excess and your artwork will go right up to the edge of the paper - Ta-da! No bits of unprinted paper at the edges.