

ISO "A series" paper sizes

As the number gets bigger, the paper gets smaller - with each step being half the previous size, e.g. A5 is half the size of A4. A series paper is based on the *Golden Rectangle*, which is visually "perfect".

GSM (Grams per Square Metre)

It is how the weight of paper and card are measured. Normal paper for exercise books and photocopiers is about 80GSM. Paper that is 160GSM is twice as heavy (thicker). Paper is classed as board when it is over 200GSM. 500GSM is thick card.

Definition of Micron – The Thickness of Paper.

Card thickness or calliper is traditionally measured in Microns.

1000 Microns = 1mm, so the higher the value, the thicker the card or paper. Usually paper or card is sold by weight as opposed to thickness, but sometimes you may see Microns instead.

Thickness of card sold usually starts at around 200 microns, and finishes at around 500 microns



Bleed proof paper

Bleed proof paper (70/150 GSM) is a particular type of layout paper, which is very well suited to using with marker pens. This is because markers will not spread out (bleed) and allow for very accurate visual effects to be created.



Photocopier paper

Photocopier paper (80GSM) comparatively cheap and has a wide number of uses including, writing, sketching and printing.



Cartridge paper

Cartridge paper (120/150 GSM) is more expensive than photocopier paper. It has a very slight rough texture and can be used with pens, pencils and markers. It is also widely used with watercolours, pastels and inks.



Sugar paper

Sugar paper (100 GSM) is a thick, coarse textured, paper that is often used for craft based activities, e.g. paper decorations. It usually comes in a range of bright colours



Layout paper

Layout paper (50GSM) is a strong paper with a smooth finish and a degree of transparency that is used in the preparation of advertising layout. It is used as an overlay by the artist to trace elements in the advertising copy.



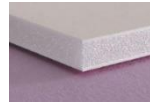
Tracing paper

Tracing paper (60/90 GSM) is a generic term used for any translucent paper that can be traced through. Generally speaking it is cheaper than layout and bleed proof papers (which have specific technical uses which justify their additional cost.)



Mounting board

(300/400GSM) is a very strong and stiff material which is used in applications where structural rigidity is important, e.g. model making.



Foam board

(300GSM) is a thick, strong and *lightweight* material which consists of a core of PVC foam, sandwiched between two layers of thin duplex board.



Solid white board

(200/400GSM) is a strong card that has been bleached white. It is, therefore, a very good surface for printing on.



Duplex board (Folding board)

(230/420GSM) is a slightly cheaper version of whiteboard. It is often used in food packaging, as it contains no recycled material.



Foil lined board

(200/350GSM) has multiple layers (including aluminium foil) added to it. This makes it waterproof and, therefore, very suitable for drinks cartons.



Corrugated cardboard

(250+GSM) is a low cost material which is structurally rigid and naturally impact resistant. It is widely used as a bulk packaging material.



Ink jet card

(200/300GSM) has the texture of photocopier paper but is still thin enough to be used in an ink jet printer, giving a high quality finish.

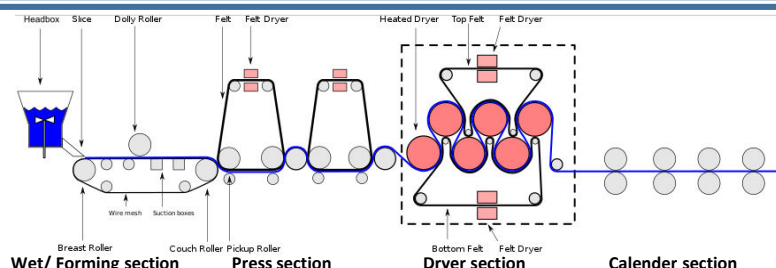
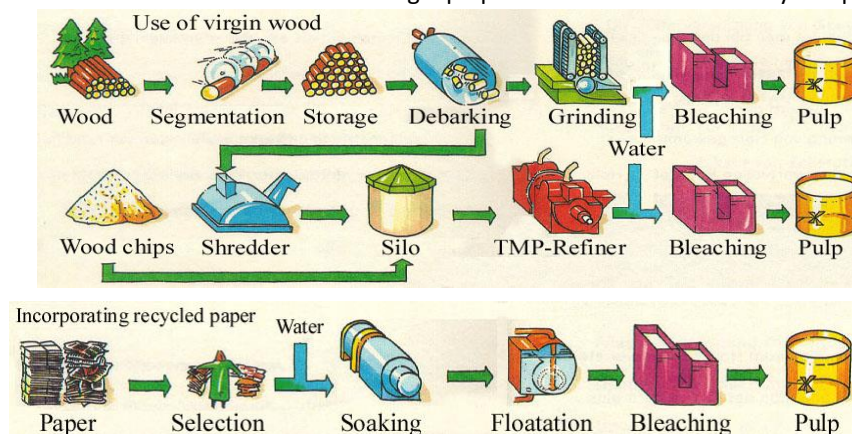


Cast coated board

(150/350GSM) has a high quality finish "coated" onto it, giving it a luxurious appearance and feel. It is often used with luxury food products, such as chocolate boxes.

Paper manufacturing

Paper and boards are made from a mix of "virgin pulp" made from trees and recycled paper



The Fourdrinier paper making method breaks the process of paper making into four section.

The forming section makes the pulp.

The press section, removes water by rolls pressing against each other.

The dryer section of the paper machine dries the paper with steam-heated cylinders.

The calender section makes the paper surface smooth and glossy.



GSM: Grams per Square Metre.

Toughness:

Resistance to impact forces.

Translucence:

Light (but not images) can pass through

The Fourdrinier

process: named after Henry Fourdrinier, the

processes inventor.



Papers and boards are members of a group known as compliant materials – so called because they can be shaped and formed using the most basic of tools (such as scissors and craft knives).

