

Paper types

A guide to different paper stocks

Uncoated

Uncoated paper is left unfinished without a coating. It has a slightly rough texture similar to standard printer paper. Because it is highly absorbent, printed images appear softer and less crisp. This absorbency makes it ideal for writing with any type of pen. Uncoated paper produces no reflection, making it well suited to novels and books, although it is more prone to tearing and marking.



Silk

Silk paper has a soft, fabric like feel compared to traditional printer paper and can be written on with a ballpoint pen. It is produced by binding silk fibres together, creating a smooth and luxurious texture. With a coating between matt and gloss, ink colours remain vibrant and fine details are clearly defined while shine is reduced. Laminating silk stock is recommended to protect the artwork and prevent rubbing or marking.



Gloss

Gloss paper has a shiny coating that reflects light, making printed colours appear more vibrant and vivid. It is often used for brochure and magazine covers. However, it is less suitable for text heavy pages, as the reflected light can make reading more difficult. Its smooth surface also means it cannot be easily written on with a ballpoint pen.



Recycled

Recycled paper is made from reclaimed fibres, reducing the need for new raw materials. It has a natural look with a slightly rough texture, and colours may appear softer due to its absorbency. It is easy to write on and offers a practical, more sustainable paper choice.