



OXFORD® PAPERS PRODUCTION TIPS

OXFORD® Papers are easy to print on when following these simple tips. It is recommended to pretest all printing procedures prior to press time to ensure the desired results are achieved. Sample sheets are available through authorized Neenah merchants or by contacting our sample department at 800-994-5993.

Storage/Handling: Papers need to acclimate to pressroom conditions at least 24 hours before opening. Pressroom humidity should be in a range of 45% – 55% at 70 – 75°F. Once open, rewrap unused product.

Prepress: As a general rule with uncoated paper, imagery should be adjusted in prepress to compensate for the additional 5–15% tone value increase that will occur. The precise amount of undercolor removal is image-specific. Total area coverage should not exceed 320%.

Ink/Printing: Inks with more tack will provide a firmer dot. A textured sheet is more absorbent than a smooth sheet, so more ink and additional cylinder pressure may be necessary to ensure smooth ink coverage. The use of opaque light inks on dark stocks may require an in-line double pass. Metallic inks work well and deliver successful results. Anticipate a dry-back of 5 to 7 density points.

Varnish: Low solvent (0–5%) varnish can be used as a surface protector; it will not alter nor enhance the appearance of uncoated smooth and textured papers. Your ink supplier is the best resource.

Aqueous Coating: Aqueous coating can be used as a surface protector; it will not alter nor enhance the appearance of the paper. Most printers will only use aqueous coating on heavier weight stocks and only with a special formulation for uncoated papers to avoid possible paper curl. Pretesting is necessary. Your ink supplier is the best resource.

Embossing: OXFORD® Papers emboss and deboss beautifully. The die's impression will smooth the textured finish, resulting in a dramatic contrast between the two.

Engraving: Engraving inks need no special treatment. Best results come with a female plate of .064 gauge copper and handcut male counter plate of 24-ply counter board applied with 2,000 – 4,000 pounds of pressure. Pressure range is dependent upon complexity of copy. Precision when cutting a counter requires less pressure and enhances the image.

Foil Stamping: We recommend the use of wax-free litho inks when combining offset lithography and foil stamping to ensure the best results and the maximum adhesion of foil to ink. For best results, stamp directly onto the paper.

Thermography: No special considerations are needed.

Folding/Scoring: A letterpress channel score parallel to the grain direction is recommended to ensure a smooth crease. Always pretest with heavier weight covers.



OXFORD® PAPERS PRODUCTION TIPS (Continued)

Trimming/Die-Cutting: A sharp blade will ensure a clean cut through the stock; a dull blade could tear the stock.

Binding: Binding should be parallel to the grain direction to prevent moisture buckling and minimize wear on the crease.

Note: *These production tips should be used as general guidelines and are not inclusive of all printing and finishing methods. Neenah recommends always pretesting for desired results prior to full production.*