

# Paper Weight Comparison Chart

A resource courtesy of Micro Format, Inc

*The values in the table shown below are intended to serve as a guide only. Similar weight papers may vary between different manufacturers\*.*

Bond Ledger	Text Book	Cover Cardstock	Index --	Pt --
16	40	22	33	3.2
18	45	24	37	3.6
20	50	28	42	3.8
24	60	33	50	4.8
28	70	39	58	5.8
29	73	40	60	6
31	81	45	66	6.1
35	90	48	74	6.2
36	90	50	75	6.8
39	100	54	81	7.2
40	100	56	83	7.3
43	110	60	90	7.4
44	110	61	92	7.6
47	120	65	97	8
53	135	74	110	9
54	137	75	113	9
58	146	80	120	9.5
65	165	90	135	10
67	170	93	140	10.5
72	183	100	150	11
76	192	105	158	13
82	208	114	170	14
87	220	120	180	15
105	267	146	220	18

## HOW TO USE THE CHART

When selecting a paper stock keep in mind the equivalents to each paper choice available. This will be able to tell you how thick the paper will be and assist you in making the right selection.

*Note that Bond, Text, and Cover are usually in LB. If for example the paper stock is a 14 pt. cover, then it used points (pt) and not pounds (lbs).*

For example, let's say that the short run brochures offer:

- 100 lb. Gloss Book
- 100 lb. Matte Book
- 80 lb. Gloss Cover
- 80 lb. Matte Cover
- 80 lb. 100% Recycled Uncoated Text
- 80 lb. 100% Recycled Uncoated Cover

The 100 lb. book stock can equate to 54 lb cover, while the 80 lb. cover can equate to 146 lb. book. This means that the 80 lb. cover can be about 45% thicker than the 100 lb. book. The recycled 80 lb text (aka book) can be equivalent to roughly a 44 lb. cover. So the two recycled stocks, while the same weight, can be different thicknesses.

As a reference point our business cards are 14 pt. cover, making them roughly equivalent to a 114 lb. cover; we use the point column in this case instead of the cover column. A 114 lb. cover can be about 30% thicker than the thickest cover available for brochures; so regardless of it actually being a card stock the 80 lb. selection can still suitable for brochure printing and can apply a thicker, more durable application.

## PAPER WEIGHTS

### • Bond Paper

A light-weight stock, also known as Ledger or Writing. It is commonly as 24 LB or 28 LB Bond Weight.

### • Text Paper

Also known as Offset, Text Paper is thicker than Ledger Paper, but not as thick as a Cover Paper. Stationery usually has a 70 LB or 80 LB Text Weight.

### • Cover Paper

A Card Stock or Pasteboard paper.

Known commonly to be used for business cards and greeting cards, but can also be applied to brochures and flyers. It is commonly used as 80 LB Cover Weight, although some brands of paper offer cover weight paper that is 100 LB or heavier.

## PAPER TYPES

### • Coated

Stock that has a surface sealant and relates to sheen: gloss, matte, dull and satin finishes. Works well particularly with photos

### • Gloss

Stock that has a high sheen; most magazines use gloss paper.

### • Dull

Stock that has a smooth surface paper that is low in gloss. Dull coated paper falls between matte and glossy paper.

### • Matte

A non-glossy, flat looking paper stock.

### • Uncoated

Stock that has not been coated with clay or other surface sealants. Cannot be combined with UV or Aqueous coating.

## COATING TERMS

### • C1S

Coated one side.

### • C2S

Coated both sides.

\*Normal paper manufacturing tolerance within a paper production run is + or - 5% to 7% caliper.

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