

# Printing Vocabulary



## Against the Grain

At right angles to the grain direction of the paper being used, as compared to with the grain. Also called across the grain and cross grain. See also Grain Direction.

## Aqueous

CoatingCoating in a water base and applied like ink by a printing press to protect and enhance the printing underneath.

## Basis Weight

In the United States and Canada, the weight, in pounds, of a ream (500 sheets) of paper cut to the basic size. Also called ream weight and substance weight (sub weight). In countries using ISO paper sizes, the weight, in grams, of one square meter of paper. Also called grammage and ream weight.

## Bind

Usually in the book arena, but not exclusively, the joining of leafs or signatures together with either wire, glue or other means.

## Bleed

Printing that extends to the edge of a sheet or page after trimming.

## Calender

To make the surface of paper smooth by pressing it between rollers during manufacturing.

## Choke

Technique of slightly reducing the size of an image to create a hairline trap or to outline. Also called shrink and skinny.

## Coated Paper

Paper with a coating of clay and other substances that improves reflectivity and ink holdout. Mills produce coated paper in the four major categories cast, gloss, dull and matte.

## Color Gamut

The entire range of hues possible to reproduce using a specific device, such as a computer screen, or system, such as four-color process printing.

## Color Separation

(1) Technique of using a camera, scanner or computer to divide continuous-tone color images into four halftone negatives. (2) The product resulting from color separating and subsequent four-color process printing. Also called separation

## Creep

Phenomenon of middle pages of a folded signature extending slightly beyond outside pages. Also called feathering, outpush, push out and thrust. See also Shingling.

## Dot

GainPhenomenon of halftone dots printing larger on paper than they are on films or plates, reducing detail and lowering contrast. Also called dot growth, dot spread and press gain.

## Dot Size

Relative size of halftone dots as compared to dots of the screen ruling being used. There is no unit of measurement to express dot size. Dots are too large, too small or correct only in comparison to what the viewer finds attractive.

## Dots-per-inch (DPI)

Measure of resolution of input devices such as scanners, display devices such as monitors, and output devices such as laser printers, imagesetters and monitors. Abbreviated DPI. Also called dot pitch.

## Felt Finish

Soft woven pattern in text paper

Finished Size

Size of product after production is completed, as compared to flat size. Also called trimmed size.

## Flat Size

Size of product after printing and trimming, but before folding, as compared to finished size.

## Four Color Process Printing

Technique of printing that uses black, magenta, cyan and yellow to simulate full-color images. Also called color

process printing, full color printing and process printing

## Grain long paper

Paper whose fibers run parallel to the long dimension of the sheet. Also called long grain paper and narrow web paper.

## Grain short paper

Paper whose fibers run parallel to the short dimension of the sheet. Also called short grain paper and wide web paper

## Halftone

(1) To photograph or scan a continuous tone image to convert the image into halftone dots. (2) A photograph or continuous-tone illustration that has been halftoned and appears on film, paper, printing plate or the final printed product.

## Hickey

Spot or imperfection in printing, most visible in areas of heavy ink coverage, caused by dirt on the plate or blanket.

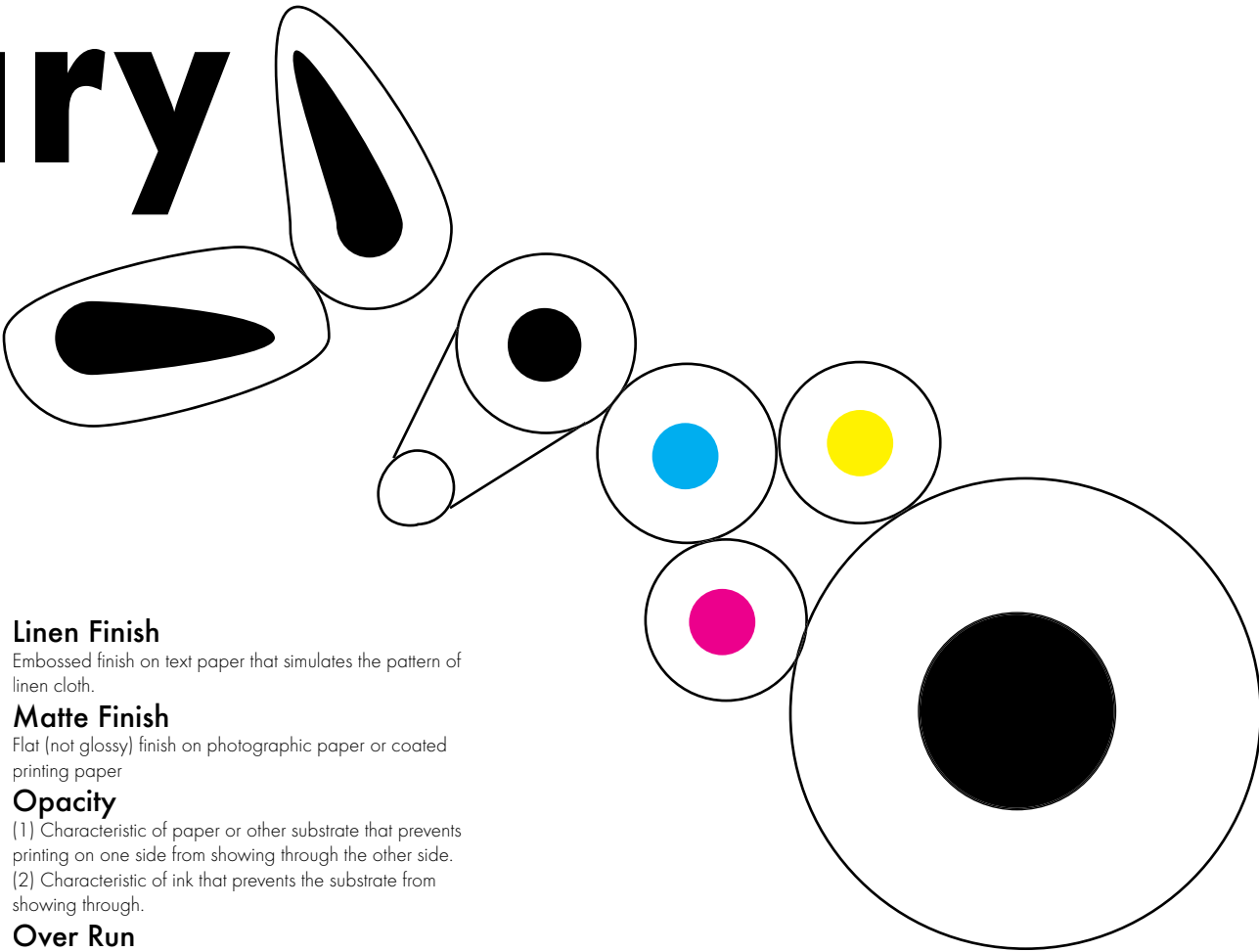
Also called bulls eye and fish eye.

## Imposition

Arrangement of pages on mechanicals or flats so they will appear in proper sequence after press sheets are folded and bound

## Laid Finish

Finish on bond or text paper on which grids of parallel lines simulate the surface of handmade paper. Laid lines are close together and run against the grain; chain lines are farther apart and run with the grain.



## Linen Finish

Embossed finish on text paper that simulates the pattern of linen cloth.

## Matte Finish

Flat (not glossy) finish on photographic paper or coated printing paper

## Opacity

(1) Characteristic of paper or other substrate that prevents printing on one side from showing through the other side.

(2) Characteristic of ink that prevents the substrate from showing through.

## Over Run

Additional printed matter beyond order. Overage policy varies in the printing industry. Advance questions avoid blind knowledge.

## Pagination

In the book arena, the numbering of pages.

## Parallel Fold

Method of folding. Two parallel folds to a sheet will produce 6 panels.

## Perfect Bind

To bind sheets that have been ground at the spine and are held to the cover by glue. Also called adhesive bind, cut-back bind, glue bind, paper bind, patent bind, perfecting bind, soft bind and soft cover. See also Burst Perfect Bind.

## Prepress

Camera work, color separations, stripping, platemaking and other prepress functions performed by the printer, separator or a service bureau prior to printing. Also called preparation.

## Press check

Event at which makeready sheets from the press are examined before authorizing full production to begin

## Process color

The colors used for four-color process printing: yellow, magenta, cyan and black

## Recycled paper

New paper made entirely or in part from old paper.

## Register Marks

Cross-hair lines on mechanicals and film that help keep flats, plates, and printing in register. Also called crossmarks and position marks.

## Saddle stitch

To bind by stapling sheets together where they fold at the spine, as compared to side stitch. Also called pamphlet stitch, saddle wire and stitch bind.

## Satin Finish

Alternate term for dull finish on coated paper.

## Sheetfed Press

Press that prints sheets of paper, as compared to a web press

## Text Paper

Designation for printing papers with textured surfaces such as laid or linen. Some mills also use 'text' to refer to any paper they consider top-of-the-line, whether or not its surface has a texture.

## Trim size

The size of the printed material in its finished stage (e.g., the finished trim size is 5 1\2 x 8 1\2).

## UV coating

Liquid applied to a printed sheet, then bonded and cured with ultraviolet light.

## Varnish

Liquid applied as a coating for protection and appearance.

## Vellum Finish

Somewhat rough, toothy finish

## Web Press

Press that prints from rolls of paper, usually cutting it into sheets after printing. Also called reel-fed press. Web presses come in many sizes, the most common being mini, half, three quarter (also called 8-pages) and full (also called 16-pages).