

Use Information: This paragraph is informational only and is not exclusively definitive of the end use. For face and back offset printing. The 12-pound paper is used on open forms, including multiple copies, one side only. The 16-pound and heavier are used in printing books, pamphlets, catalog, open forms, etc. Printed matter may include text, line illustrations, and ruled forms. Halftones and reverse prints may be included on the 20-pound paper..

Stock: Ground wood pulp, not to exceed 1%.
Note: Not less than 30% postconsumer fiber. Any percent over 30 percentage points, is encouraged, provided that the requirements of this Standard are met.

Basis weight: 17 by 22 inches,
500 sheets (pounds)..... 12 16 18 20
A tolerance of $\pm 5\%$ shall be allowed.

Folding endurance: Average,
each direction, not less
than (MIT double fold) ... 7 8 8 9

Opacity: Average, not less than
(percent) na 83 84 85
No individual specimen shall
average less than (percent) ... na 81 83 83

Thickness: Average
(mils) na 3.0 na 3.7
A tolerance of ± 0.0004 inch shall be allowed. Paper shall
be uniform and shall not vary more than 0.0004 inch from
edge to edge.

Writing quality: Characters written with ball point and felt tip pens shall be clear cut and free from excessive feathering.

General appearance: Paper shall conform to the standard sample(s) established by the Government.

Brightness: The white paper shall have a target brightness not less than 79% or as specified.

Color²: The paper shall be uniform and the color variation shall not exceed DE(CIELAB) = 1.0.

For colored stock, paper shall match one of the established color standards in Part 3 or match a color sample supplied by the ordering agency. Colors shall not fade or transfer (rub off) and shall appear even and uniform on the surface of the sheet. The sheet shall not be 2-sided.

Formation: Shall be uniform.

Cleanliness:² The dirt count for each side of the paper shall not exceed 650 specks per square meter. No sample sheet (600 to 650 cm² in size) shall contain more than one defect with equivalent area of 0.25 mm² or greater.

Testing: Shall be conducted in accordance with methods in part 2, *Government Paper Specification Standards*. The acceptance criteria Part 4 will apply.

¹ This grade is typically not available in less than mill run quantities.

² The GPO stocks these colors (blue, buff, green, pink, salmon, yellow). Exact matches to these are available in mill run quantities: