



SOUTHWEST
BUSINESS PRODUCTS LTD.
From Bindings to Branding

Paper Weight Conversion Table

BASIS WEIGHT COMPARISONS

Basis weights in bold.
All weights are for 500 sheet reams.

GRADE	BOND 17x22	BOOK 25x38	COVER 20x26	BRISTOL 22.5x28.5	INDEX 25.5x30.5	TAG 24x36
BOND LEDGER WRITING	13	23	18	22	27	30
	16	41	22	27	33	37
	20	51	28	34	42	46
	24	61	33	41	50	56
	28	71	39	48	58	64
	32	81	45	55	67	74
	36	91	50	62	75	83
	40	102	56	69	83	93
	44	112	61	75	92	102
BOOK OFFSET TEXT	12	30	16	20	25	27
	14	35	19	24	29	32
	16	40	21	27	32	36
	18	45	24	30	37	41
	20	50	27	34	41	45
	24	60	32	40	49	55
	28	70	38	47	57	64
	31	80	43	53	66	73
	35	90	48	60	74	82
	39	100	53	67	81	91
45	115	62	77	94	105	
47	120	65	80	98	109	
COVER	29	73	40	49	69	66
	36	91	50	62	75	82
	43	110	60	74	90	100
	47	119	65	80	97	108
	58	146	80	99	120	134
	65	164	90	111	135	149
	72	183	100	124	150	166
	79	201	110	136	165	183
	86	219	120	149	180	200
	93	238	130	161	195	216
115	292	160	197	239	266	
BRISTOL	39	99	54	67	81	90
	47	119	65	80	97	108
	58	148	81	100	121	135
	70	176	97	120	146	162
	82	207	114	140	170	189
	93	237	130	160	194	216
	105	267	146	180	218	242
	117	296	162	200	243	269
INDEX	43	110	60	74	90	100
	53	135	74	91	110	122
	67	170	93	115	140	156
	82	208	114	140	170	189
	105	267	146	182	220	244
TAG	43	110	60	74	90	100
	54	137	75	93	113	125
	65	165	90	111	135	150
	76	192	105	130	158	175
	87	220	120	148	180	200
	109	275	151	186	225	250
	130	380	181	222	270	300

MIFL0165

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METRIC WEIGHT COMPARISONS

Unlike traditional North American paper weights (lbs), the international metric standard for paper weight (grams per square metre or gsm) have an absolute value without regard to whether the sheet is bond, book, cover, etc.

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CONVERSION FACTORS FROM LBS/500 SHEETS TO GSM

GRADE	BASIC SIZE	CONVERSION FACTOR
WRITING	17 x 22	3.760
BOOK	25 x 38	1.480
COVER	20 x 26	2.704
INDEX	25.5 x 30.5	1.808
BRISTOL	22.5 x 28.5	2.193
TAG	24 x 36	1.627

Example

50 lbs offset has a basic size of 25 x 38

50 lbs x 1.480 conversion factor = 74.0 gsm

BASIS WEIGHTS TO GSM

BASIS WEIGHT LBS	GSM	BASIS WEIGHT LBS	GSM	BASIS WEIGHT LBS	GSM
WRITING		TEXT, BOOK, OFFSET		COVER	
BASIC SIZE 17 x 22		BASIC SIZE 25 x 38		BASIC SIZE 20 x 26	
FACTOR = 3.760		FACTOR = 1.480		FACTOR = 2.704	
16	60	40	59	65	176
20	75	50	74	80	216
24	90	60	89	100	270
28	105	70	104	111	300
32	120	80	118	120	325
36	135	100	148	129.5	350
VELLUM BRISTOL		INDEX		TAG, NEWSPRINT	
BASIC SIZE 22.5 x 28.5		BASIC SIZE 25.5 x 30.5		BASIC SIZE 24 x 36	
FACTOR = 2.193		FACTOR = 1.808		FACTOR = 1.627	
67	147	90	163	100	163
80	175	110	199	125	204
100	219	140	253	150	244
120	263	170	307	175	285
140	307	220	398	200	326

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