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# RISOGRAPH PRINT GUIDE

BLACK LIGHT GREY FEDERAL BLUE MEDIUM BLUE BLUE AQUA MINT SEAFOAM LIGHT TEAL TEAL  
MOSS GREEN KELLY GREEN FLUO GREEN LIGHT LIME FLUO YELLOW YELLOW  
SUNFLOWER FLUO ORANGE ORANGE COPPER METALLIC GOLD CORAL RED BRIGHT RED  
FLUO RED CRANBERRY FLUO PINK BUBBLEGUM LIGHT MAUVE BISQUE ORCHID VIOLET PURPLE

## How Riso Works

Artwork is sent to the Riso via a computer connection and burned onto a roll of thermal-sensitive paper, which wraps around the print drum. Ink is forced through the rotating mesh of the drum and paper, creating a stencil. Each layer is printed using a separate drum, with inks overprinting to build up the artwork. Stencils can't be saved between print jobs, so all copies are printed in one go.

Riso doesn't promise perfection; final prints carry a unique character distinct from digital artwork and prints are manually aligned and adjusted, a process that brings with it the charm of misregistration and tiny imperfections. These quirks and idiosyncrasies are what sets Risograph printing apart!

## Overprinting & Opacities

We stock 34 inks which can be used independently or overprinted to create new shades - the only exception is metallic gold, which sits on the surface of other inks. To visualise overlaid shades, set digital artwork layers to 'multiply' in Adobe. You can choose to overprint colours, or cut out to print independently. Adding trapping helps minimise gaps from misregistered layers. Be careful not to only grayscale your colour artwork, as this won't work. You will need to adjust the levels of black to achieve the correct opacities of ink colour.

Riso reads levels of black from digital artwork and cuts stencils based on this  
**100% black = 100% printed colour / 50% black = 50% printed colour**

## Artwork Setup

We require a separate file for each colour, named with the ink colour you wish to use, for example **mediumblue.pdf**. Files should be PDF, A3 size, 300dpi, with no embedded bleed or crop marks - plus a full colour reference file of the artwork. The printed colour is determined by the ink and drum in the machine, not the digital file.

Text should be set to 6pt or larger for clarity and vector files are best for crisp results. Black should be set to HEX #000000 or 100% K, saved as grayscale or RGB format (CMYK can make blacks appear more 'grey' and won't print at 100%).

## Print Registration

Each layer is printed one at a time and registration is controlled manually, therefore we allow up to 3mm movement between layers. The more layers in your artwork, the higher chance of misregistration.

Double-sided prints can be tricky to align between front and back, so make allowances for this in your artwork. You won't achieve perfect alignment with Risograph, but that's part of the fun! If a design demands precision, another print method with more accuracy is a better choice.

## Printable Area

The printers accept A3 sized paper (297 x 420mm) and the maximum printable area is 287 x 410mm. A 5mm blank margin needs to be left around the A3 sheet, due to Riso not being able to print full bleed. We print onto A3 paper and trim as needed - for example you'll get 2 x A4 copies / 4 x A5 copies / 8 x A6 copies from each sheet. We can also trim to custom sizes within the printable area, allowing for crop marks and 3-4mm bleed.

Artwork templates are available to download on our website and custom sizes can be set up.

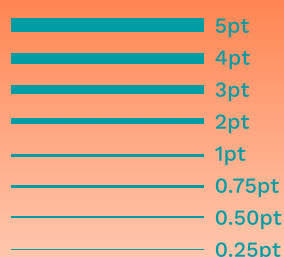
## Imperfections

**Heavy Ink Coverage** Steer clear of ink overload; large patches of concentrated ink can lead to the paper jamming in the machine or getting stuck to the drum. For large areas of colour, aim for an opacity of about 85% or less.

**Roller & pick-up marks** Rubber rollers feed the top 50mm or so of paper, so keep ink lighter here to avoid roller marks. A plastic needle guides paper out of the printer, which can drag through very heavy ink. Imperfections should be expected in multi-colour or double sided prints.

**Ink transfer & smudging** Ink can transfer from copy to copy, especially on multi-colour or heavily inked prints. Our guillotine also adds pressure when trimming, so we may recommend blotting paper (at an additional cost) to reduce this.

20pt 8pt 16pt  
14pt 12pt 10pt 8pt 6pt



20pt 18pt 16pt  
14pt 12pt 10pt 8pt 6pt

## Photo & Full Colour

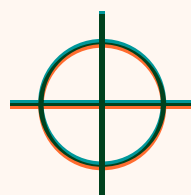
Riso is capable of printing full colour artworks and photographs, using a faux-CMYK method which mimics the way digital images are produced. There's a great (free!) app called **Spectrolite** which splits full colour images into layers, output as PDF files ready for Riso printing. We have digital colour swatches of our ink palette available to download which you can drop into the app, or choose your own palette.

Combinations of 2, 3 or 4 ink colours can be used and prints have the same misregistration and imperfections as regular Riso printing, producing offbeat and surprising results. Email us to enquire about full colour printing along with a sample of your artwork or photograph, so we can advise on how to make it work.

25%  
50%  
75%  
100%



Max print area  
410 x 287mm



Misregistration



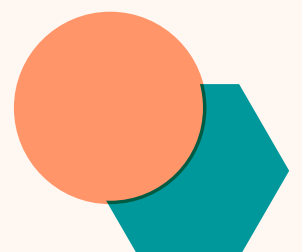
Roller marks



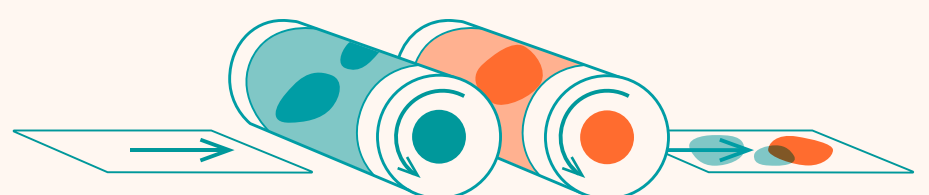
Overprint



Cut out



Trapped







# RISOGRAPH INK COLOUR CHART

We stock 34 spot colour Risograph inks, the largest selection in the UK!  
Screen colours vary compared to prints and HEX codes are for reference only. We have printed swatch packs available online to compare inks in person, before deciding on a palette.

**BLACK**

HEX #000000

**LIGHT  
GREY**

HEX #88898A

**FEDERAL  
BLUE**

HEX #3D5588

**MEDIUM  
BLUE**

HEX #3255A4

**BLUE**

HEX #0078BF

**AQUA**

HEX #5EC8E5

**MINT**

HEX #82D8D5

**SEAFOAM**

HEX #62C2B1

**LIGHT  
TEAL**

HEX #009DA5

**TEAL**

HEX #00838A

**MOSS**

HEX #68724D

**GREEN**

HEX #00A95C

**KELLY  
GREEN**

HEX #67B346

**FLUO  
GREEN**

HEX #44D62C

**LIGHT  
LIME**

HEX #E3ED55

**FLUO  
YELLOW**

HEX #F7FF00

**YELLOW**

HEX #FFE800

**SUNFLOWER**

HEX #FFB511

**FLUO  
ORANGE**

HEX #FF7477

**ORANGE**

HEX #FF6C2F

**COPPER**

HEX #BD6439

**METALLIC  
GOLD**

HEX #AC936E

**CORAL**

HEX #FF8E91

**RED**

HEX #FF665E

**BRIGHT  
RED**

HEX #F15060

**FLUO  
RED**

HEX #FF4C65

**CRANBERRY**

HEX #C24F5D

**FLUO  
PINK**

HEX #FF48B0

**BUBBLEGUM**

HEX #F984CA

**LIGHT  
MAUVE**

HEX #E6B5C9

**BISQUE**

HEX #F2CDCF

**ORCHID**

HEX #BB76CF

**VIOLET**

HEX #9D7AD2

**PURPLE**

HEX #765BA7





# RISO STUDIO PAPER STOCKS

Paper colour and texture will not match exactly - order our swatch pack online for samples.  
80-120gsm is suitable for leaflets, flyers and publication pages. 160-250gsm is suitable for publication covers and posters. 300gsm is suitable for greeting cards, business cards and postcards.

## CONTEXT NATURAL

135 / 190 / 250gsm

Warm off-white smooth, 100% recycled

## ECHO

120 / 160 / 200 / 250 / 300gsm

Cool white lightly textured, 100% recycled

## TREE FREE

120 / 160 / 200 / 250 / 300gsm

Warm creamy smooth, contains no wood

## ALGA CARTA

120 / 160 / 200 / 250 / 300gsm

Warm white speckly, made with algae

## CUPCYCLED

140gsm

Warm white rough, 80% waste coffee cups

## STEINBEIS

80gsm

Grey-white flecked, 100% recycled

## EVERCOLOR YELLOW

80gsm

Lightly textured, 100% recycled

## EVERCOLOR SALMON

80gsm

Lightly textured, 100% recycled

## EVERCOLOR PINK

80gsm

Lightly textured, 100% recycled

## EVERCOLOR BLUE

80gsm

Lightly textured, 100% recycled

## EVERCOLOR GREEN

80gsm

Lightly textured, 100% recycled



# STANDARD COLOUR PAPER STOCKS



Standard range is FSC certified and chlorine-free. Coloured paper is ordered in per job and the price depends on weight, shade and quantity - contact us for a quote. Screen colours vary to paper samples, so order swatches online to check in person.

<div>IVORY</div> <div>120 / 250gsm</div>	<div>VELLUM</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>	<div>WHEAT</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>	<div>BUNTING</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>	<div>CHAMOIS</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>	<div>BLUSH</div> <div>120 / 240gsm</div>
<div>FLAMINGO</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>	<div>SALMON</div> <div>120 / 160gsm</div>	<div>ROSE</div> <div>120 / 225gsm</div>	<div>ICE BLUE</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>	<div>MERLIN BLUE</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>	<div>SKY BLUE</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>
<div>PIGEON BLUE</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>	<div>PEACOCK BLUE</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>	<div>RICH BLUE</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>	<div>REGAL BLUE</div> <div>240gsm</div>	<div>NAVY BLUE</div> <div>240gsm</div>	<div>TEA GREEN</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>
<div>LARK GREEN</div> <div>120 / 160 / 240gsm</div>	<div>LIME GREEN</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>	<div>OCEAN</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>	<div>WOOD PECKER</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>	<div>DARK GREEN</div> <div>240gsm</div>	<div>PALE GREY</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>
<div>OWL GREY</div> <div>120 / 160 / 240gsm</div>	<div>BATTLE SHIP</div> <div>120 / 180 / 240 gsm</div>	<div>SKYLARK</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>	<div>VIOLET</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>	<div>LAPWING</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>	<div>NOUGAT</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>
<div>CANARY</div> <div>120 / 160 / 240gsm</div>	<div>GOLD CREST</div> <div>120 / 180 / 240 gsm</div>	<div>FANTAIL</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>	<div>ROUGE</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225gsm</div>	<div>BLOOD RED</div> <div>120 / 160 / 240gsm</div>	<div>BURGUNDY</div> <div>120 / 250gsm</div>
		<div>WINE</div> <div>115 / 170 / 210gsm</div>	<div>BLACK</div> <div>120 / 160 / 225 / 270gsm</div>		

# COLORSET PAPER STOCKS

££

Colorset range is 100% recycled. Coloured paper is ordered in per job and the price depends on weight, shade and quantity - contact us for a quote. Screen colours vary to paper samples, so order swatches online to check in person.

**NATURAL**

120 / 270gsm

**STORM**

120 / 270gsm

**LIGHT  
GREY**

120 / 270gsm

**ASH**

120 / 270gsm

**FLINT**

120 / 270gsm

**DARK  
GREY**

120 / 270gsm

**NERO**

120 / 270gsm

**SAND  
STONE**

120 / 270gsm

**SUEDE**

120 / 270gsm

**TUSCAN  
BROWN**

120 / 270gsm

**BLUSH**

120 / 270gsm

**PINK  
ICE**

120 / 270gsm

**MAGENTA**

120 / 270gsm

**LEMON**

120 / 270gsm

**SOLAR**

120 / 270gsm

**MANGO**

120 / 270gsm

**DEEP  
ORANGE**

120 / 270gsm

**CHILLI**

120 / 270gsm

**BRIGHT  
RED**

120 / 270gsm

**CRIMSON**

120 / 270gsm

**ORCHID**

120 / 270gsm

**AMETHYST**

120 / 270gsm

**AQUA  
MARINE**

120 / 270gsm

**LIGHT  
BLUE**

120 / 270gsm

**INDIGO**

120 / 270gsm

**MIDNIGHT**

120 / 270gsm

**DEEP  
BLUE**

120 / 270gsm

**LIME**

120 / 270gsm

**SPRING  
GREEN**

120 / 270gsm

**EVER  
GREEN**

120 / 270gsm





# COLORPLAN PAPER STOCKS

£££

Colorset range is FSC certified. Coloured paper is ordered in per job and the price depends on weight, shade and quantity - contact us for a quote. Screen colours vary to paper samples, so order swatches online to check in person.

<div>NATURAL</div> <div>100 / 120 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>	<div>CHINA WHITE</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>MIST</div> <div>120 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>	<div>VELLUM WHITE</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>STONE</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>SORBET YELLOW</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>CHAR-TREUSE</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>
<div>COOL GREY</div> <div>120 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>	<div>PALE GREY</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>REAL GREY</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>SMOKE</div> <div>120 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>	<div>DARK GREY</div> <div>100 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>	<div>SLATE</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>EBONY</div> <div>100 / 120 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>
<div>COOL BLUE</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>AZURE BLUE</div> <div>120 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>	<div>NEW BLUE</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>IMPERIAL BLUE</div> <div>100 / 120 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>	<div>COBALT</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>SAPPHIRE</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>ADRIATIC</div> <div>100 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>
<div>TABRIZ BLUE</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>TURQUOISE</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>MARRS GREEN</div> <div>100 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>	<div>EMERALD</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>MID GREEN</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>RACING GREEN</div> <div>100 / 120 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>	<div>FOREST</div> <div>120 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>
<div>LOCKWOOD GREEN</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>PARK GREEN</div> <div>100 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>	<div>POWDER GREEN</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>PISTACHIO</div> <div>120 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>	<div>HARVEST</div> <div>100 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>	<div>NUBUCK BROWN</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>BAGDAD BROWN</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>
<div>BITTER CHOCOLATE</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>CITRINE</div> <div>120 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>	<div>FACTORY YELLOW</div> <div>100 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>	<div>MANDARIN</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>RUST</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>BRIGHT RED</div> <div>100 / 120 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>	<div>VERMILION</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>
<div>SCARLET</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>CLARET</div> <div>100 / 120 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>	<div>AMETHYST</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>PURPLE</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>ROYAL BLUE</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>LAVENDER</div> <div>120 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>	<div>CANDY PINK</div> <div>100 / 120 / 135 175 / 270sm</div>
		<div>FUCHSIA PINK</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>	<div>HOT PINK</div> <div>135 / 175 / 270gsm</div>			