

**Use Information:** This paragraph is informational only and is not exclusively definitive of the end use. For face and back offset printing of card indexes, identification cards, office forms, notices, posters, covers, etc. requiring execution with pen and ink, erasing quality, and above average permanence. Printed matter may include text, illustrations, and halftones and solid reverses.

**Stock:** Groundwood pulp, not to exceed 1%.  
*Note: Not less than 20% postconsumer fiber. Any percent over 20 percentage points, is encouraged, provided that the requirements of this Standard are met.*

**Acidity:** pH value average not less than 6.5 for white paper and 5.0 for colored paper

**Basis weight:** 25-1/2 by 30-1/2 inches, 500 sheets  
(pounds) ..... 90 110 140 170  
A tolerance of  $\pm 5\%$  shall be allowed.

**Bursting strength:**  
Average not less than  
(lb/in<sup>2</sup>) ..... 40 50 60 75

**Thickness:** Average (mils) 7.5 9.0 11.5 13.8  
A tolerance of  $\pm 0.0005$  inch shall be allowed. Paper shall be uniform and shall not vary more than 0.0004 inch from edge to edge.

**Ruling and writing quality:** Lines ruled and character written with ball point and felt tip pens shall be clear cut and free from excessive feathering.

**Erasing quality:** Paper shall retain good ruling, writing, and typing quality, texture, and surface appearance, without ink spreading after repeated erasure.

**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 81% or as specified.

**Color:**<sup>1</sup> The paper in the order (or publication) 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.

**Finish and formation:** Shall be uniform.

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

OPTION

**Alkaline paper.** This option is for products requiring above average permanence. Replace above with the following properties.

**Stock:** 100% bleached chemical woodpulp.  
*Note: Not less than 30% postconsumer fiber. Any percent over 30 percentage points, is encouraged, provided that the requirements of this Standard are met.*

**Acidity:** pH value by cold extraction shall be not less than 7.0. The paper shall contain not less than 2% calcium carbonate.

*Note: Any deviation in this requirement is sufficient cause for rejection of the paper.*

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

<sup>1</sup> The GPO stocks these colors (blue, buff, green, pink, salmon, yellow). Exact matches to these are available in mill run quantities: