



CTI PAPER USA

Astrokink®

Lustrous Pearlescent Paper Printing & Handling Hints

ASTROKING® Pearlescent Papers are easy to print on when following these simple hints.

We recommend you pre-test all procedures prior to press time to ensure you achieve the desired results.

Inks: ASTROKING has a totally non-absorbent surface. UV printing is highly recommended. If UV printing is not possible, for optimum results we recommend inks that dry by oxidation and contain less than 5% VOC (solvents). In-line matt UV coating is advisable. Aqueous coating can be used. Please consult your ink manufacturer prior to printing.

Handling: Keep ASTROKING wrapped in mill packaging until the moment of printing. It is essential to let the paper acclimate in the press room for a minimum of 24 hours — longer during cold weather. Also keep ASTROKING covered during drying, between passes and prior to any finishing work. Pressroom conditions should be as close as possible to 68 degrees and 45-60% relative humidity.

Reverse: ASTROKING cover is equally coated on each side. We recommend you print both sides of the first 10 sheets to ensure you achieve the desired results on each side. Astrokink is also available in 88 lb text as coated one-side paper.

Delivery: For optimum results, set jogger pressure to a minimum and lifts at 8 to 12 inches for UV printing or 2 to 3 inches for oxidizing inks.

Fountain Solution: Fountain solution pH of 4.8 to 5.5 is ideal. Monitor conductivity between 800-1200 ms and carefully control the alcohol/water balance. Solid or multiple color bars can be used to assist in removing water and aid in ink set time. Minimize fountain solution to avoid emulsion into the ink, minimize drying time and improve ink anchoring to the paper.

Cutting: Use care when cutting ASTROKING. Use a sharp knife with minimum clamp pressure.

Scoring and Folding: To properly score ASTROKING, start with a 2-point rounded channel score. The matrix channel should be a minimum width of 2.5 times the caliper of the sheet to be scored, plus 0.028" — normally 0.050" for text and 0.060" for cover.

Binding: ASTROKING is suitable for all standard binding processes. Polyurethane glues are preferred. It is important to plan for proper grain direction in all binding applications. Grain direction should run parallel to the spine for optimum results.

Lamination: For lamination projects trials are recommended before operation, especially for dark colors.

Gluing: Pretest for selection of glues, Polyurethane glues have been successful.

Foil Stamping: For optimum results, use foils suitable for plastic materials. Dark colored paper can interact with foil and cause foil oxidation. To avoid problems coat with an acrylic or UV primer or apply a transparent foil below the final foil.

Thermography: For optimum results, pretest if using text weight or any dark colors.



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*Note: The above recommendations are "hints" based on our knowledge and experience.
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Email printing@thepapermill.com or call 800-284-7273 for additional assistance.*