Great Lakes Graphics Association
Illinois • Indiana • Wisconsin

We currently use waste sheets from previous jobs for set-up. How many printers only use virgin paper for set-up vs. waste sheets from previous jobs?

Summary: 22 responses. Almost evenly split between a mixture and just virgin.

We try to use waste sheets from previous jobs to keep waste to a minimum.

We use unprinted stock. The stock that the job is printed on.

We use virgin paper only

We use waste sheets from previous jobs whenever we can.

We use virgin paper for 95% of all make-readies.

We use the same paper as the job calls for and have make-ready built into the quote/specs – both heatset web and sheetfed.

We currently use virgin sheets only.

We do a mixture of both.

We usually have 200 sheets per color built in to the quotes…….4 color job = 800 makeready and a good pressman really doesn't need more than that. For tougher jobs we do have some make ready behind the machines that may be printed on one side so there's a clean side to use for m/r

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We use waste sheets from former jobs . . . saves money and good for the environment!

We always use waste sheets from previous jobs to start the make ready process but ultimately to match a proof, we use virgin paper.

We currently use virgin paper and waste paper to set up jobs.

We only use virgin sheets

We try to only use virgin sheets for MR, but on occasion used waste sheets.

Just my humble opinion, but you should NEVER send a sheet through a digital press that has been through a digital press before. The electro Ink leaves a residue that can only contaminate the feeders and rollers

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Waste Sheet a valuable resource for management Training. 1. A 1 inch pad to separate skid from production sheets & to have feeder settings clear skid. 2. Waste is booked for lays & register checks 25 waste + 2 good then press trips off when pulled back pick up trips off side guide. 3. Final read over for plating & everything else.- save for back up if not using a perfector. 4. 1st – 4th color up books to make final OK. Then run 100 waste and keep going on job. 5. Save all by sheet sizes in rack for sheeting off ink before wash up or if ink must be broke or conditioned due to temp & humidity. 6. Run waste between static rollers to sheet off excess / emulsified ink fast. 7. Floor sheets to catch press drips, dirt, oil, powder. Teaches the value of virgin paper & gives the feeder a job to assist in the MR. They will know 3-4 books is a good set up for job vs running 400+ +'s ouch virgin sheets is just the way its done. Job overage sheets should come back to press to replenish waste inventory and to weed out 4 times used waste sheets that wont work as well.

We use only virgin sheets for make-ready for new jobs. However, we run these sheets through the press multiple times during the make-ready, when possible. As well, when we run plastic, we never run "books" of paper and plastic. We always use plastic only and the exact job stock plastic, for the make-ready. We have found that the cost incurred using previously run waste sheets or using paper to make-ready a plastic job, far exceeds the cost of using the exact same sheets ordered for the job.

Based upon the complexity of the job, 70% of the time we are using virgin paper for set ups and the other 30% we can use waste sheets.

We use virgin sheets.

We use very little virgin paper for make ready.

We use waste from previous jobs for approximately 95% of our jobs and the second side of the virgin paper we do use eventually gets used as make ready on another job. This saves us from buying approx. 600,000 sheets of paper per year.

Our pre-press software and processes are up to date with automation sending CIP4 data to the press. We also use Alwan for ink optimization and are G7 certified. We will use waste sheets if only printed on 1 side. We will not print over top of previous printed paper for makeready. Our typical make ready is about 100 sheets or less from job to job, form to form on standard quality work.

We often use waste for set up but try to use the same weight and coated/uncoated. We also factor in using virgin paper when estimating jobs and find that we use virgin stock in addition to the waste.