



EMBELLISHMENTS AND FINISHING

Blocking

To make an impression on paper or board from a block of design or lettering. The impression may be filled with a foil, or without (referred to as blind embossing).

Deboss

To press an image into paper so it lies below the surface.

Die-Cutting

A die forme is made consisting of knives (steel rules) – blunt for creasing and sharp for cutting and placed in the bed of a press to give cut outs or folds in printed material.

This is used where irregular shapes need to be cut out of a printed sheet. The sheet is pressed into the die forme which cuts out the required shape.

Emboss

A mechanical process for raising an area of paper above the surface.

Foil

Plastic film with a gold, silver or metallised colouring used to block designs.

Kiss Cut

To die cut the top layer but not the backing of a self adhesive paper.

Laminate

To bond a thin plastic film to a printed sheet using heat and pressure to protect or enhance it. Gloss or matt finishes are available. The starting point for choosing to laminate should be the consideration of the laminate's ability to satisfy the aesthetic, technical and production requirements of a specific project in the final printed result you are trying to achieve.

Encapsulated lamination refers to the enclosing in of the printed sheet within the laminate.

Perforating

Small holes or slots through paper to allow for a straight-line tear.

Score

To make a crease along a straight line on board or paper so that it will fold more easily and accurately. It is preferable to score heavy paper before folding it, in order to avoid cracking.

UV Gloss Coating

Ultra violet lacquer finish applied to a sheet after printing. In this process, the lacquer is applied by a roller and then dried with UV lamps.

The UV coating can also be a silk-screened spot finish where only selected areas are covered.