

PAPER PROPERTIES

Paper weights are measured in grams per square metre (gsm). The smaller the gsm usually means the thinner the paper or card.

- Low gsm (70–120): Thin, lightweight paper for sketches or printing.
- Medium gsm (120–200): Stronger paper/card for drawing, coloured pencils, or crafts.
- High gsm (200+): Heavy, durable paper/card for watercolours, mixed media, or final artwork.

Papers available from Specialist Crafts:



Cartridge Paper

Weight: 100–200gsm

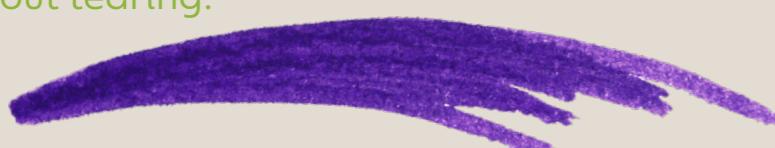
Surface: Smoother options and slightly textured.

Best for:

- Graphite Pencils
- Coloured pencils
- Charcoal

Why use it:

Strong enough for erasing and layering without tearing.



Watercolour Paper

Weight: 190–300gsm

Surface: Hot or Cold Pressed options for smooth or slight texture.

Best for:

- Watercolour
- Gouache
- Ink washes

Why use it:

Designed to withstand water without buckling.

Sugar Paper

Weight: 100–140gsm

Surface: Rough, slightly textured.

Best for:

- Soft Pastels
- Crafts
- Collage

Why use it:

Strong enough for cutting and gluing. Bold colours make artwork stand out.

Pastel Paper

Weight: 160gsm

Surface: Lightly textured.

Best for:

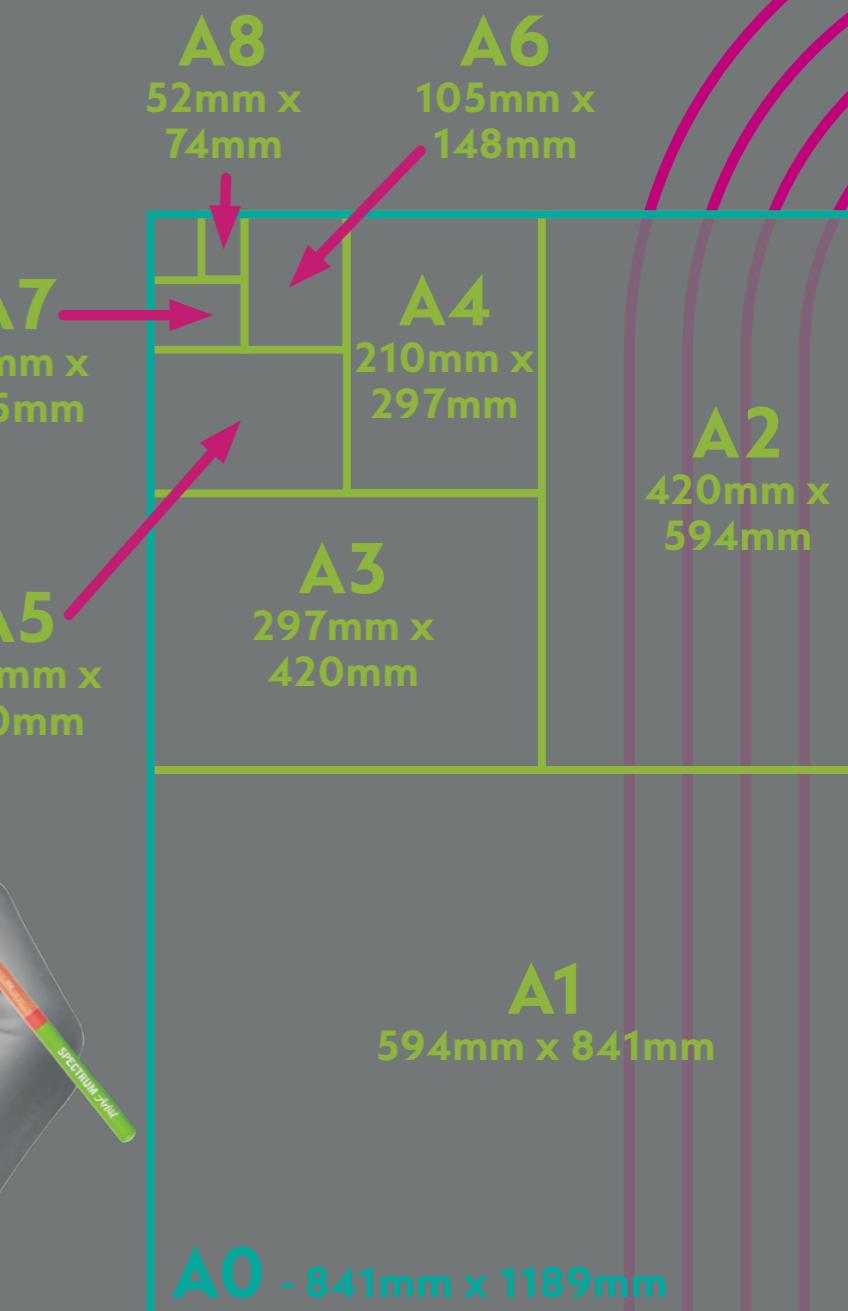
- Soft pastels
- Charcoal
- Soft Graphite Pencils

Why use it:

The texture grips powdery materials so they embed into the paper surface leaving stronger colour.

PAPER SIZES

The A series of papers are standard sizes used worldwide, from A0 (largest) to A8 (smallest). Each size is half the area of the previous one, keeping the same shape.



Tip: Heavier paper can handle more layers, water, or ink without tearing or warping.