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SPECIFICATION FOR PAPER SIZES

(Second Revision)

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BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS

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NEW DELHI 110002

Price Group 3

Indian Standard
SPECIFICATION FOR PAPER SIZES
(Second Revision)

Paper and Its Products (Excluding Packaging Materials)
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Indian Standard
SPECIFICATION FOR PAPER SIZES
(*Second Revision*)

0. FOREWORD

0.1 This Indian Standard (Second Revision) was adopted by the Indian Standards Institution on 10 May 1980, after the draft finalized by the Paper and Its Products (Excluding Packaging Materials) Sectional Committee had been approved by the Chemical Division Council.

0.2 A large variety of paper sizes is currently used in India. The purpose of this standard is to rationalize and reduce the varieties to achieve improved coordination of paper sizes for various end uses, such as letter paper, filing records, office furniture, loose sheet stationery and card index records. This would also bring about uniformity in the sizes of papers to be used for correspondence, production of books, pamphlets and other allied materials. Rationalization and reduction in the number of sizes of paper will also help reduce the cost of production.

0.3 For achieving these objectives the committee responsible for the preparation of this standard felt that while the trade practices followed in the country in this field should be kept in view, due weightage should also be given to the need for international co-ordination, especially with the ISO standards on the subject.

0.4 The system of paper sizes specified for general adoption by ISO is based on the principle of obtaining smaller sizes from a bigger sheet maintaining the same length-width ratio without any wastage in trimming (see **2**).

0.4.1 ISO has adopted A-Series as the main series of trimmed sizes and a large number of countries have adopted this.

0.5 This standard was originally published in 1957 covering only the trimmed sizes based on the ISO recommendation. It was first revised mainly to include the untrimmed sizes. The standard has been again revised mainly to delete the inch sizes given in the first revision and to align it with the current ISO standards on the subject.

0.6 Recommended sizes of A-Series suitable for various commercial formats are given in Appendix B. This list is for general information

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and is only illustrative, not exhaustive. Sizes from the B- and C-Series are also included in this standard which may be used under exceptional circumstances (see **3.2**).

0.7 This standard is mainly based on the following International Standards:

ISO 216-1975 Writing paper and certain classes of printed matter — trimmed sizes — A and B Series. International Organization for Standardization.

ISO 478-1974 Paper — Untrimmed stock sizes for the ISO-A Series — ISO primary range. International Organization for Standardization.

ISO 593-1974 Paper — Untrimmed stock sizes for the ISO-A Series — ISO Supplementary range. International Organization for Standardization.

0.8 This edition 3.1 incorporates Amendment No. 1 (September 1989). Side bar indicates modification of the text as the result of incorporation of the amendment.

0.9 For the purpose of deciding whether a particular requirement of this standard is complied with, the final value, observed or calculated, expressing the result of a test, shall be rounded off in accordance with IS : 2-1960*. The number of significant places retained in the rounded off value should be the same as that of the specified value in this standard.

1. SCOPE

1.1 This standard prescribes the sizes (trimmed and untrimmed) of painting, writing, wrapping, and casing paper, machine-made and hand-made.

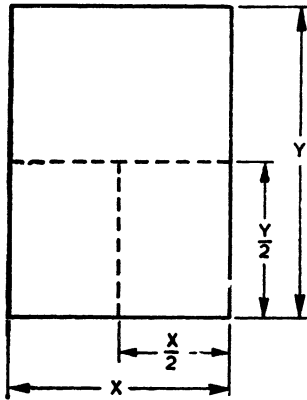
1.2 This standard does not cover paper sizes required for special purposes. Whenever any special size is required, it is recommended that the nearest equivalent in the A-Series be adopted.

PART I TRIMMED SIZES

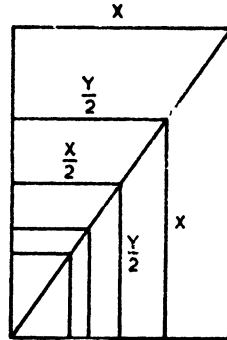
2. BASIC PRINCIPLES

2.1 Halving — Two successive formats of a series of sizes are obtained by halving along the length or doubling along the width. The areas of the two sizes are in the ratio 1 : 2 (see Fig. 1A).

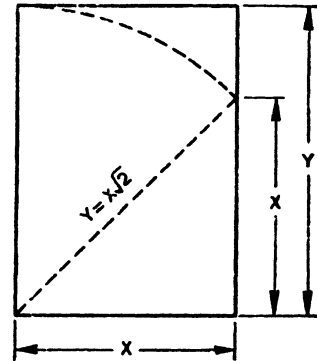
*Rules for rounding off numerical values (revised).



1A Halving and Doubling



1B Similarity of Format



1C Relationship Between Two Sides

FIG. 1 ILLUSTRATION OF BASIC PRINCIPLES OF PAPER SIZES

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2.2 Similarity — The forms are similar to one another, and hence the equation $x : y = 1 : \sqrt{2}$ is obtained for the two sides x and y of a format (see Fig. 1B).

2.2.1 Consequently, the ratio between both sides is the same as that of the side of a square to its diagonal (see Fig. 1C).

2.3 System of Measurement — The area of the surface of the basic format is equal to one square metre (that is, $xy = 1 \text{ m}^2$).

2.4 Basic Size — According to the three principles described under **2.1**, **2.2** and **2.3**, the two equations, $x : y = 1 : \sqrt{2}$ and $xy = 1$, apply to the basic size with the sides x and y . The basic rectangle, having a surface of 1 m^2 , therefore, has the sides $x = 0.841 \text{ m}$ and $y = 1.189 \text{ m}$.

2.5 A-Series — As described under **2.1**, the A-Series is obtained by continuously halving the sizes obtained from the basic size ($841 \times 1\,189 \text{ mm}$, A0).

2.6 Supplementary Series — The geometrical intermediate sizes between the formats of the A-Series form the B-Series, and the geometrical intermediate sizes between the formats of the A- and B-Series form the C-Series.

3. SIZES

3.1 Main Series of Trimmed Sizes (ISO-A Series) — All kinds of stationery and printed matter, including offset cartridge, shall be of the A-Series. These sizes are given in Table 1.

3.2 Supplementary Series — Some additional sizes of paper, which may be used only in exceptional circumstances, when sizes are needed intermediate between any two adjacent sizes of the A-Series, are given in Appendix A.

NOTE — These sizes from the B- and C-Series have been given with a view to helping the industry in the intervening period before completely adopting A-Series. These additional sizes are to be avoided as far as possible.

3.3 Wrapping Paper — The standard size for wrapping paper shall be A0.

3.4 Reels — The width of a standard reel shall correspond to one dimension of a specified standard size of paper or an integral multiple thereof.

TABLE 1 PRINCIPAL SIZES — A-SERIES

(Clause 3.1)

SL No.	DESIGNATION	SIZE
(1)	(2)	(3) mm
i)	4 A0	1 682 × 2 378
ii)	2 A0	1 189 × 1 682
iii)	A0	841 × 1 189
iv)	A1	594 × 841
v)	A2	420 × 594
vi)	A3	297 × 420
vii)	A4	210 × 297
viii)	A5	148 × 210
ix)	A6	105 × 148
x)	A7	74 × 105
xi)	A8	52 × 74
xii)	A9	37 × 52
xiii)	A10	26 × 37
xiv)	A11	18 × 26
xv)	A12	13 × 18

3.5 Sizes of Strips — The sizes for strips shall be obtained by cutting the main sizes lengthwise into quarters, eighths, etc, for envelopes, inscription cards, tickets, coupons, drawings, etc. Some examples of designation and size are given below:

<i>Designation</i>	<i>Size</i> mm
1/3 A4	99 × 210
1/4 A4	74 × 210
1/8 A7	13 × 74

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4. TOLERANCE

4.1 The sizes in this part of the standard shall be considered as trimmed sizes for all independent papers as business letter paper, headings of factory sheets, drawings, advertising material, periodicals, books, etc. but shall be within the following tolerances:

<i>Prescribed Length/Width</i> mm	<i>Tolerance</i> mm
Up to 150	± 1.5
Above 150 up to 600	± 2.0
Above 600	± 3.0

PART II UNTRIMMED (RAW STOCK) SIZES

5. SIZES

5.1 Paper shall normally be manufactured and stocked by mills and dealers in the untrimmed sizes given in Table 2.

5.2 However, sizes other than those given in Table 2 may be agreed upon between the purchaser and the supplier but shall be derived either by doubling or halving the sizes given in Table 2.

TABLE 2 UNTRIMMED (RAW STOCK) PAPER SIZES

SL No.	TRIMMED SIZE	UNTRIMMED SIZE			
		Standard Size		Special Size*	
		Designation	Size	Designation	Size
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
			mm		mm
i)	A0	RA0	860 × 1 220	SRA0	900 × 1 280
ii)	A1	RA1	610 × 860	SRA1	640 × 900
iii)	B1	RB1	750 × 1 050	—	—
iv)	C1	RC1	670 × 940	SRC1	680 × 960

*For bled work or where extra trim is required.

5.3 Cover paper shall be in RA0 Special, RA1 Special, RB1 Standard and RC1 Special sizes.

5.4 Reels — The width of reels shall correspond to one dimension of a specified untrimmed size of paper or an integral multiple thereof.

6. TOLERANCE

6.1 The variation in measurement of paper in sheets or reels shall be not more than 0.5 percent above or below the ordered measurement. Where 0.5 percent is less than 3 mm, the tolerance shall be ± 3 mm, and where 0.5 percent exceeds 5 mm, the tolerance shall be ± 5 mm.

APPENDIX A

(Clause 3.2)

SUPPLEMENTARY SIZES FROM B- AND C-SERIES

SL No.	DESIGNATION	SIZE
(1)	(2)	(3)
		mm
i)	B0	1 000 × 1 414
ii)	B1	707 × 1 000
iii)	B2	500 × 707
iv)	B3	353 × 500
v)	B4	250 × 353
vi)	B5	176 × 250
vii)	B6	125 × 176
viii)	B7	88 × 125
ix)	B8	62 × 88
x)	B9	44 × 62
xi)	B10	31 × 44
xii)	C0	917 × 1 296
xiii)	C1	648 × 917
xiv)	C2	458 × 648
xv)	C3	324 × 458
xvi)	C4	229 × 324
xvii)	C5	162 × 229

A P P E N D I X B

(Clause 0.6)

SL. No.	USES	PAPER SIZES									
		(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
(1)	(2)										
1.	Tear Off Calendar Block					A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	
2.	Tear Off Calendar Base			A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7		
3.	Directories (General)					A4	A5				
4.	Official Gazette					A4					
5.	Share Scrips				A3	A4	A5				
6.	Advertisement Posters	A0	A1	A2	A3						
7.	Certificates					A4	A5	A6			
8.	Order Forms					A4	A5	A6			
9.	Printing Proof				A3	A4	A5	A6	A7		
10.	Letters (General)					A4					
11.	Half Letter Size (General)						A5				
12.	Books					A4	A5	A6	A7		
13.	Carbon Papers					A4	A5				
14.	Railway Time Table	A0	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6			
15.	Telephone Directory					A4	A5				
16.	Scribbling Pads or Note Papers					A4	A5	A6	A7		
17.	Trade Books			A2	A3	A4	A5				
18.	Commercial Letter Papers				A3	A4	A5	A6	A7		
19.	Card Index					A4	A5	A6	A7		
20.	Catalogues					A4	A5	A6	A7		
21.	Advertising Pamphlets	A0	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	A9
22.	Hand Bills							A6	A7	A8	A9
23.	Periodicals, Magazines				A3	A4	A5				
24.	Costing and Posting Sheets					A4	A5				
25.	Maps	A0	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6			
26.	Patent and Standard Drawing Papers				A3	A4					
27.	Posters (Big)	A0	A1	A2	A3						
28.	Drawing	A0	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6			
29.	Post Cards							A6			

(Continued)

**RECOMMENDED SIZES OF A-SERIES SUITABLE FOR
COMMERCIAL FORMATS — Contd**

SL. No.	USES	PAPER SIZES										
		(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	
(1)	(2)											
30.	Newspaper			A2	A3	A4						
31.	Price Lists					A4	A5	A6	A7			
32.	Receipts						A5	A6				
33.	Instrument Record Sheets (Round)					A4	A5					
34.	Sign Boards	A0	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8		
35.	Pocket Note Books						A5	A6	A7			
36.	Sand Paper					A4	A5	A6				
37.	Instruction and Rule Sheets				A3	A4	A5	A6				

Sizes given in **bold face** are most commonly used.
