Making Paper

To make paper you will need a mould of deckle, pulp, water, a blender, a vat, felts, and a way to dry your handmade paper. It's that easy, though it can get more complicated if you like.

Paper is made from cellulose fiber and water. Cotton linters, 100% Rag, abaca or specialty pulps are available as sheet pulp and are very easily rehydrated (broken down) with a blender. For the beginner we recommend a 2nd cut cotton linter or 100% cotton rag for a soft, bright white sheet. Add any of the other sheet pulps for strength or color, or mix in any other recyclable papers and make your own recycled paper!

Tear the dry pulp into 1 or 2 inch squares and soak overnight. Using a blender, pour in two cups of warm water, slowly add one cup of wet pulp and then blend for a few minutes until you have a slurry that has the consistency of oatmeal. Put your blenderful of pulp into a vat, add another quart of water and mix. This is your first batch of ready to use pulp. You may want to add more pulp or more water depending on the thickness you want to achieve in your handmade paper.

Next, while holding the deckle tightly on the mould, dip your mould and deckle into the far side of the vat. Pull it towards yourself, level and lift. Shake the mould from side to side as you bring it out of the water, letting the extra water drain out. A layer of pulp will be formed on the top of the mould.

To remove the pulp from the mould, turn it over onto a wet felt - don't worry, the pulp won't slide off. This is called couching - pronounced "kooching."

To couch the paper, place the edge of the mould on the far side of the felt and smoothly lay the pulp down on the felt. Place another wet felt on top of the pulp. Make another sheet of paper and repeat the process. You can press out the remaining water by using a rolling pin, then transfer the wet sheets onto dry felts or blotters, or brush a wet sheet onto a wall or window - any flat surface will do and leave it to dry.

Congratulations! You have just made your first sheets of handmade paper. Now the fun really begins! You can color, collage, laminate, recycle, cast, embed - the list goes on and on. The best way to make paper is to experiment - let your imagination run wild and have fun!

Lee McDonald

Lee S. McDonald, Inc.
PO Box 264
Charlestown, MA 02129

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

make paper, make art
Simple Mould

Our Simple Mould is made of kiln-dried White Oak with a fitted Honduras Mahogany deckle. Finger joints are used throughout for extra strength. The underside of the deckle has been routed to assure true alignment to the mould. Made with our heavier 39 mesh polyester screen bonded to the mould with epoxy adhesives which gives the mould an extremely taut surface. The Simple Mould makes 8 1/2 by 11 inch sheets of paper. Our Envelope, Oval c3 Circle Deckles will also fit this mould.

MO-SIM

145.75 (1.5)

Big Simple Mould

Same construction as our Simple Mould. Makes 11 by 17 inch sheets. A wonderful mould c3 deckle for the artist who need a larger size - for making books?

MO-BIGSIM

201.25 (2)

c3 Our Classic

Apprentice Moulds

A favorite of University Instructors c3 Studio Papermakers. Finely constructed of 1 by 5/8 inch mahogany stock with finger joints in the corners, and smoothly rounded bottom edges. The ribs are 5/8 inch aluminum tubing with two layers of polyester mesh stretched c3 glued to the edges with epoxy (not sewn construction) for the surface. The deckles have tenon joints for maximum strength.

Please allow 6 weeks for delivery of Apprentice Moulds.

A 50% deposit is required with each order, with the balance due upon shipment.

Available in four sizes:

| MO-AP-8X11 | size 8 1/2’ x 11’ | 287.50 (2.5) |
| MO-AP-11X14 | size 11’ x 14’ | 516.25 (3.3) |
| MO-AP-12X18 | size 12’ x 18’ | 362.50 (2.5) |
| MO-AP-16X20 | size 16’ x 20’ | 477.25 (3.5) |

Dowel Ribbed Moulds

Superb moulds, highly recommended by both teachers c3 fine handmade paper artists. Our Dowel Ribbed Moulds are an intermediate duty mould for frequent, but not heavy, daily use.

Dowel Ribbed Moulds have a sewn construction using a backing layer of our 6 x 6 polyester screen. They are built with the same construction c3 materials as our Custom Moulds, except that the ribs have been replaced with 3/8 inch aluminum dowels. The bottom edges of the mould are rounded; flat brass corners are available as an option.

Either woven 39 mesh polyester (MO-DRP) or 40 mesh brass screen (MO-DRB) can be used as the top surface.

Both styles, MO-DRP c3 MO-DRB, come with Poly 6x6 screen backing.

Please allow 6 to 8 weeks for delivery of Dowel Ribbed Moulds. A 50% deposit is required with each order, with the balance due upon shipment.

These moulds are also available as unassembled or unsewn kits.

Available In Four Sizes:

| MO-DRP | MO-DRB |
| Woven Poly | Woven Brass |
| 8 1/2’ X 11’ | 506.00 (3.5) | 563.50 (4) |
| 12’ X 18’ | 632.50 (4) | 747.50 (4.5) |
| 16’ X 20’ | 868.25 (4.5) | 1,000.60 (5) |
| 18’ X 24’ | 1,104.00 (5) | 1,242.00 (5.5) |

Care of your moulds c3 deckles:

Take special care when using c3 storing your moulds. Clean them after every use to keep pulp from building up on the screen.

Use a hose that has a strong spray nozzle and plenty of pressure.

This is very important with double screened moulds as they are much more difficult to clean once the pulp has dried. Dry them after use.

Do not leave them in a hot area (ie., top of a radiator, back of car windows) as they can warp or the screens can lift off.

Do not try to dry your paper on the mould in an oven - not only is it harmful to the mould, but it will prematurely age the paper.

Order Toll Free: 1.888.McPaper (1.888.627.2737) Fax: 617.242.8825
Custom Moulds

Things of beauty - works of art in themselves! Beloved by production paper makers. Made in the tradition of a centuries old craft. Made by hand, our very special attention to detail ensures that these moulds will perform supremely well for years and years to come.

Our Custom Moulds & Deckles are carefully crafted from straight-grained Honduras Mahogany, the traditional material of choice due to its stability and rot resistance, with clear Ponderosa Pine ribs. The dovetailed corners on the mould are fastened with wooden pegs of high-strength waterproof glue. After assembly, the ribs of the mould are hand-shaped to a slightly convex curve to ensure proper sheet formation and a tight deckle fit. All surfaces are hand sewn to these ribs. Exposed edges are trimmed with a brass strip fastened to the mould with brass escutcheon pins. The deckle is joined with a special overlapping tenon joint. It too is then shaped by hand and fitted to the mould.

Various types of Custom Moulds are available - from Woven to Antique Laid Moulds (laid without backing) - and in many different sizes.

Please allow 8 to 10 weeks for delivery of Custom Moulds & Deckles. A 50% deposit is required with each order, balance payable upon shipment.

Custom Mould & Deckle prices:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mould size (inside size in inches)</th>
<th>8 1/2 x 11</th>
<th>12 x 18</th>
<th>16 x 20</th>
<th>18 x 24</th>
<th>22 x 30</th>
<th>30 x 40</th>
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<tr>
<td>Surfaces</td>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>(6)</td>
<td>(7)</td>
<td>(7.5)</td>
<td>(8)</td>
<td>(9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woven Poly</td>
<td>776.25</td>
<td>1046.50</td>
<td>1224.75</td>
<td>1380.00</td>
<td>1667.50</td>
<td>2550.00</td>
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<td>Woven Brass</td>
<td>862.50</td>
<td>1127.00</td>
<td>1551.25</td>
<td>1552.50</td>
<td>1840.00</td>
<td>3133.75</td>
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<td>Laid w/o backing</td>
<td>891.25</td>
<td>1520.88</td>
<td>1818.44</td>
<td>2082.94</td>
<td>2645.00</td>
<td>4298.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laid w/ backing</td>
<td>1124.15</td>
<td>1620.00</td>
<td>1917.62</td>
<td>2182.13</td>
<td>2744.19</td>
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Options:

- Brass 1/2 Corners w/ rub strips: 198.38
- Brass Rubstrips: 99.19
- Flat Brass Corners: 105.80
- Flat Brass Mould Trim: 105.80
- Brass Deckle Trim: 198.38
- Cross Bracing: NA

Un-Assembled & Un-Sewn Moulds

Our Custom Moulds & Dowel Ribbed Moulds are available un-assembled or un-sewn.

The un-assembled moulds come in a kit with step-by-step instructions. The pieces are ready to be joined after sanding. All joints are pre-cut and tested for fit. Included are the dowels or ribs, reinforcing rods, mould, frame & deckle stock, nails, brass edging and surfaces.

For assembly you will need a general selection of woodworking tools for shaping & sanding.

Approximate assembly time: 8 to 20 hours; sewing: 10 to 40 hours depending on the size of the mould.

We will be happy to quote prices for non-standard sizes.

UNASSEMBLED 40% OFF

If you don’t have woodworking skills but you still want to do some of the work yourself, the unsewn moulds are a good choice. All the woodworking is done, only the sewing of the screens is left. Sewing requires 10 to 40 hours, depending on the size of the mould.

UNSEWN 20% OFF

Custom Deckles

Handcrafted to your design - Divided Deckles $c.

Call for a quote

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Lee S. McDonald, Inc. CUSTOMER SERVICE & TECHNICAL SUPPORT: 617.242.2505
MOULD MAKING SUPPLIES

We are often asked, "Why can't I use...?" Of course you can. The earliest screen was probably a coarse piece of fabric. In 16 centuries there has been a lot of progress - some materials perform better than others, some are classics. These are the materials that we prefer to use in constructing our moulds & deckles.

Epoxy Paste
We offer a superior Epoxy Paste which comes in a two part formula. This is the best adhesive we have ever found for gluing screens onto moulds. It doesn't sag or run like regular epoxies as it has a thicker consistency. It works well for joints, too. Mixes easily; sets in one hour and cures overnight. Ask us for gluing instructions when you order. Sold in pints (Two 8 oz. cans).

MM-EPoxy Pint 26.45 (1,3)

Stainless Steel Staples
When you are making your own moulds, stapling the screen to your frames is the easiest way to attach the screen. Stainless Steel staples ensure that you will not have problems with rust. These Stainless Steel staples fit the Arrow T-50 staple gun. T-50 staple guns are available in most hardware stores. We repack the staples here so that the price is the best possible. 1,250 per package.

MM-STAPLE-1/4 9.75 (25) per package

Flat Brass 3/8" wide x .020
Used for edging the screen on traditional moulds.

MM-BRASS-FL 1.50 (1) per linear foot

Flat Brass 1 1/4" wide x .020
This width is used on the moulds for flat brass trim, where the bottom edge has been rounded.

MM-BRS-1/4 2.75 (1) per linear foot

Flat Brass 1 3/8" wide x .020
This width is also used on the moulds for flat brass trim.

MM-BRS-1-FL 2.75 (1) per linear foot

Brass Escutcheon Pins
Well-formed nails with round heads (3/8" x #17 wire gauge) that work beautifully in attaching brass to the mould. Approx. 150 nails per ounce.

MM-PINS 4.75 (1) per ounce

3" Flat Corners
We make these flat brass corners for corner protection. Ready to be nailed to the mould.

MM-CORNRS-FL 17.25 (1) each

Brass Half-Round Corners
For the bottom edge of the moulds. Used with rub strips, adds strength & protection.

MM-CORNRS-BN 54.50 (15) each

WATERMARK SERVICE
Using a photographic process, most designs can be reproduced with varying line widths. Lines should be at least 1/8" apart for clarity. Please supply black & white camera-ready artwork (no pencil, please). Photo-etched magnesium watermarks are available in thicknesses of .032", .040", or .054." If you want the watermark sewn to your mould, please send a full size sheet with the position of placement of the watermark indicated. (Additional labor charge for our sewing.) We also make traditional bent wire marks on a quote-only basis.

MO-WTRMARK P.O.R. Min charge is $50/40

SCREEN for MOULDS
A wide variety of screens are available as surfaces to make your own moulds, or for use in vacuum drying systems. Sold by the linear foot, or if cut-to-size, by the square foot. Ask for our free screen sample kit, if you are not sure which screen to purchase. Please note; there are no returns on cut-to-size screens.

Blue Weave
A polypropylene, heat-shrinking screen - the screen we use on our Basic & Student Moulds. We like it because it has a good surface for sheet formation, has good drainage and it easily tightens if it ever starts to sag. Ask for our free gluing instructions & be sure to order our Epoxy Paste. Sold by the linear foot, or by the square foot for cut-to-size pieces. 65" wide.

SC-BLUE-F 11.50 (OS) per linear foot
SC-BLUE-C 5.75 (OS) per sq. ft. cut-to-size

39 Mesh
Stiff, yet lightweight; an ideal top surface for large double screen moulds. We use this on our Simple & Apprentice moulds. 40" wide. Width & price specifications subject to change - call for availability & current price.

SC-39-F 12.95 (OS) per linear foot

ORDER TOLL FREE: 1.888.McPaper (1.888.627.2737) Fax: 617.242.8825
### SCREEN for VACUUM SYSTEMS & DRYERS

*For detailed information: ask for our free Vacuum & Dryer Handouts*

#### Filter Link

1/8" thick; creates a flat, porous surface. Use alone, or cover with 17 mesh. In a three layer vacuum system it provides an additional layer for even vacuum flow. A very good choice for Drop boxes.

- **SC-FILTERLINK**
  - *Special Order Only* 16.75 (OS) per square foot

#### Blue Tube

About 3/16" thick; good for stack dryers and vacuum systems. Creates a horizontal air matrix for air and water flow. Use the XN-3019 as a top surface to complete the sandwich. 76" wide.

- **SC-TUBE-BLUE**
  - 31.88 (OS) per linear yard

#### Mateflex

An excellent support tile for top surfaces in vacuum systems. 1/2" thick, creates an even drainage space. The grid locks together to make any size surface. Cover with a single layer of 17 mesh or with the Filter Link where the most even drainage is required. The best choice for production tables and drop boxes. 12" x 12" x 1/2" Tile

- **SC-MATEFLEX**
  - 6.25 (OS) each

#### XN-3019

An extruded non woven polypropylene 12 x 16 mesh. Good for vacuum systems as it lies flat and provides a stable surface. Please note: the manufacturing process leaves a slight crease approximately 12" from the selvage edges. Sometimes useful in small drying machines. 47.5" wide.

- **SC-XN-3019**
  - 6.50 (OS) per linear foot

#### 17 Mesh Polyester Screen

Support surface for vacuum systems. Slightly stiff; rolls out to a flat surface. Use in dryer systems when for conservational purposes aluminum screen won’t do. 56" wide.

- **SC-17MESH**
  - *Special Order Only* 21.75 (OS) per linear foot

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**6 x 6 Polyester**

Lightweight white backing especially useful for large moulds when weight is a consideration. It is used in combination with either brass or polyester top surfaces. 56" wide.

- **SC-POLY6X6-F**
  - 34.59 (OS) per linear foot

**40 Mesh Brass**

The brass surface screen we use on our Custom Moulds. A perfect surface for woven paper; provides excellent drainage. 36" wide.

- **SC-BRS40-F**
  - 15.30 (OS) per linear foot

**8 x 8 Mesh Brass**

A heavy wire brass mesh used in backing the 40 Mesh surface to provide support and even drainage. 36" wide.

- **SC-BRS8X8-F**
  - 25.00 (OS) per linear foot

**Laid Surface**

Laid wire surfaces were traditional on Western paper moulds before the Industrial Revolution. Our laid surface is made of phosphor bronze wire with 1" chain spacing; 19 wires per inch laid lines. One square foot minimum.

- **SC-LAID**
  - *Special Order Only* 101.25 (OS) per sq. ft. cut-to-size

**10 x 10 Bronze Backing**

Used as a backing wire for the Laid Surface, this light weight bronze screen produces a paper with a less pronounced laid pattern. Sold cut-to-size only.

- **SC-10X10BNZ**
  - 28.75 (OS) per sq. ft. cut-to-size

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