

FAQs & Printing Guidelines - Nekoosa PP Synthetic

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Characteristics

- **What is Nekoosa PP Synthetic?** Nekoosa PP Synthetic is a durable polypropylene synthetic paper designed for commercially printed applications that require extra durability. Waterproof, tear-resistant, and built to withstand harsh environmental conditions, this product offers a reliable solution for long-lasting prints. Its flexibility and pliable nature make Nekoosa PP Synthetic ideal for applications that require folding and scoring, such as menus, table tents, and tags.
- **Which thicknesses does Nekoosa PP Synthetic come in?** Nekoosa PP Synthetic is offered in 8, 10, 12, and 14 mil in both digital and offset grades.
- **Does Nekoosa PP Synthetic come in both sheets and rolls?** Nekoosa PP Synthetic is stocked in 12"x18" and 13"x19" sheets for digital printing (full cartons and retail packs) and 28"x40" sheets (skids) for offset printing. However, Nekoosa can slit rolls upon request. Additional sheet and roll sizes are subject to minimum order quantities and may require extended lead times.

Printing

- **What types of printers can you use to print Nekoosa PP Synthetic?** Nekoosa PP Synthetic is offered in two grades; "Nekoosa PP Synthetic – Digital" and "Nekoosa PP Synthetic – Offset." The digital grade is compatible with digital dry toner/laser and is certified for HP Indigo printers. The offset grade is compatible with traditional and UV offset presses.
- **What steps should be taken before printing on Nekoosa PP Synthetic?** For the best results, allow the sheets to acclimate in the press room for 24 hours before printing. We also recommend fanning the sheets before loading and maintaining a press room humidity level of 40-50%.
- **Does Nekoosa PP Synthetic require special inks for offset printing?** Nekoosa PP Synthetic is compatible with both traditional and UV offset presses. When using traditional offset inks, an ink-drying agent may be needed to speed up drying times. For optimal results and instant drying, we recommend printing with UV offset inks.
- **What is the standard drying time for Nekoosa PP Synthetic?** If using traditional paper inks, please allow at least 24 hours per side for drying. If using UV offset inks, the prints will dry immediately.
- **Can Nekoosa PP Synthetic be coated in-line?** Yes, an aqueous coating or primer can be applied in-line during the printing process. For projects requiring a UV varnish, we recommend first applying a primer or aqueous coating to the sheet's surface for optimal adhesion.
- **How can static buildup be controlled when printing on Nekoosa PP Synthetic?** Static ionization units and tinsel can be used to minimize static buildup.

Finishing & Converting

- **Does Nekoosa PP Synthetic require any special finishing techniques?**
 - Ensure that blades, dies, and drill bits are sharp to prevent tearing.
 - Nekoosa PP Synthetic can be guillotined just like traditional paper. We recommend using the lightest compression setting possible.
 - Drill 1" stacks at a time to avoid potential melting or distortion.

Applications

- **What are the most common uses for Nekoosa PP Synthetic?** Synthetic papers are used for any printed application that requires extra durability. They are also a great alternative to lamination. Where Nekoosa PP Synthetic stands out is its ability to fold and flex to create applications like folded and scored menus, table tents, and flexible tags.
- **Can Nekoosa PP Synthetic be used outdoors?** Yes, Nekoosa PP Synthetic can be used outdoors for up to 12 months. Nekoosa PP Synthetic is waterproof and tear-resistant and can withstand exposure to rain, humidity, sun, chemicals, and other harsh environments.
- **Does Nekoosa PP Synthetic need to be laminated?** No, you do not need to laminate Nekoosa PP Synthetic. Unlike lamination, Nekoosa PP Synthetic won't delaminate or fray along the edges, ensuring a clean, professional look over the lifetime of the printed application. It also improves operational efficiency by eliminating the time-consuming lamination step, allowing printers to streamline production. Additionally, printing on synthetic paper requires few consumables while delivering superior results.
- **How can I clean applications printed on Nekoosa PP Synthetic?** We recommend cleaning the printed surface with diluted gentle soap and a microfiber cloth.
- **Is Nekoosa PP Synthetic FDA approved?** Nekoosa PP Synthetic is approved by the FDA for indirect food contact.
- **Is Nekoosa PP Synthetic fire retardant?** The mineral-based coating on the surface does act as an inorganic fire retardant. Therefore, it is combustible but not easily ignited.
- **What is the shelf life of Nekoosa PP Synthetic?** 2 years.
- **How should you store Nekoosa PP Synthetic?** Please store unprinted material in its original packaging.

Sustainability

- **Is Nekoosa PP Synthetic environmentally friendly?** Nekoosa PP Synthetic is a non-PVC, polypropylene-based plastic that does not emit VOCs. It is eco-friendly, as it helps preserve the environment and reduce deforestation by reducing the consumption of natural resources such as trees.
- **How do I properly dispose of Nekoosa PP Synthetic?** As a polypropylene (PP) plastic film, this material is identifiable as the Plastic Identification Code #5. The material is recyclable where the facilities are available to do so or may be used in a Waste-to-Energy system to generate heat or electricity. This material will remain inert if disposed of in an approved landfill.
- **Does Nekoosa PP Synthetic contain PCBs?** Nekoosa PP Synthetic does not contain PCBs.
- **Does Nekoosa PP Synthetic contain BPA's?** Nekoosa PP Synthetic does not contain Bisphenol A (BPA), Bisphenol, Bisphenol A diglycidyl ether (BADGE), Bisphenol F (BPF), Bisphenol F diglycidyl ether (BFDGE), Bisphenol S (BPS) or other Bisphenol based materials.