



IS 6956 : 2001 - Cover paper - Specification (First Revision)

As Shakespeare's said, "Don't judge a book by its cover." Yet, first impressions matter. The humble paper cover has transformed from a simple protective wrapper to a vibrant marketing tool, influencing readers' desires and perceptions.

From preserving ancient manuscripts to becoming a consumable art form, the paper cover's history is rich in innovation. Over the centuries, graphic designers have continually reimagined the paper, reflecting societal shifts and artistic movements.

In this series, we'll delve into the fascinating evolution of paper covers, exploring the most significant revolutions that have shaped the industry. Join us on this visual journey through the ages, as we uncover the striking transformations that have made paper covers an integral part of literary culture."

Cover paper, The Indian Standard (IS 6956 : 2001) for environment-friendly paper products has undergone significant revisions to promote sustainability. The Bureau of Indian Standards introduced the ECO-Mark scheme to label eco-friendly products, as initiated by the Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India. This scheme is administered by BIS under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act 1986.

To qualify for the ECO logo, products must carry the BIS Standard Mark, which combines the ISI Mark and the ECO logo. Manufacturers can opt for the ISI Mark alone, but to qualify for the BIS Standard Mark for eco-friendliness, additional environmental requirements must be met.

This standard (IS 6956 : 2001), therefore, incorporates environment friendly requirements for cover paper which is based on the Gazette Notification No. 455 dated 13 November 1992 for paper as environment friendly products published in the Gazette of India. First Amendment was issued in 2016.

This standard (IS 6956 : 2001) prescribes the requirements and method of sampling and test for cover paper. The material shall be categorized into two types (i.e. Type A & Type B) based on raw materials used. According to Type A, The material shall be manufactured from pulp containing not less than 60 percent by mass of pulp made from materials other than bamboo, hard woods, soft woods and reed. According to Type B The material shall be manufactured from pulp made from 100 percent waste paper.

The paper shall be uniform formation, thickness and substance. The paper shall be evenly finished and generally free from holes, specks and other blemishes. The paper shall also comply with the requirements given in Table 1 when tested in accordance with the method. The grammage of the cover paper shall be as agreed to between the purchaser and the supplier. However when tested as per 6 of IS 1060 (Part 1) no single test result shall vary by more than ± 6 percent from nominal grammage. Further a mean of 10 test results shall not vary from nominal grammage by more than ± 4 percent.