



## PAPER GUIDE

### STEP 1: CHOOSING YOUR PAPER TYPE

*If you're choosing to print your own wedding invitations at home, it's safe to assume you might be on a bit of a budget. But by investing a little extra money in quality paper you can make your DIY invitations look professional while still saving you hundreds of dollars.*

*Here are three different types of paper we recommend for DIY brides.*

#### Cotton Paper

*The most versatile invitation paper, Cotton paper is (as the name suggests) made from 100% pure cotton. It's great for adding a sleek, modern look to invitations. And because it's so pliable it can even be run through most inkjet and laser printers without any problems.*

*It costs roughly 30 cents per 8.5 x 11" sheet (100 sheets per pack).*

#### Traditional Cardstock

*Cardstock is a smooth, simple paper that's often a practical choice for brides on a budget. It comes in a variety of colors and weights, and is great for making everything from invitations to programs to place cards.*

*It costs about 15 cents per 8.5 x 11" sheet (100 sheets per pack).*

#### Linen Paper

*Linen is a semi-rough paper that emulates the look and feel of linen fabric with slightly raised grooves to give the paper a textured feel. The weight and texture of linen paper is perfect for adding a touch of professionalism and glamour to your DIY wedding invitations.*

*It costs roughly 25 cents per 8.5 x 11" sheet (100 sheets per pack).*

### STEP 2: CHOOSING YOUR PAPER WEIGHT

*The thickness of cardstock paper is measured in pounds, with the higher pound weight denoting a thicker paper. Most desktop printers can print anywhere from 60# to 100#, but we usually recommend 80# to be on the safe side.*

*Printers with a rear-feed tray can usually handle thicker paper because the paper doesn't have to turn over inside the machine which runs the risk of jamming of the feed.*

## BRANDS WE LOVE

*Here are some of the brands we recommend when purchasing quality cardstock and envelopes:*

[PAPER SOURCE](#)  
[PAPER AND MORE](#)  
[CARDS AND POCKETS](#)

## HELPFUL HINTS

### ONE

---

**Order a sample sheet.** *A lot of online retailers will let you order a sample before committing to the entire 100-sheet pack. We recommend always doing a test print to make sure the paper will run through your printer and that you're satisfied with the results.*

### TWO

---

**Read your printer's specs.** *Most printers have a section in the instruction manual that tells you the kind of paper and the thickness that will work best. Simply getting this information upfront will save you tons of time, money and sanity in the long run.*

### THREE

---

**Choose the thickest paper your printer will allow.** *Thicker paper lends a touch of glamour and luxury to your invitations and prevents them from screaming cheap(!), so when faced with the choice, choose the thickest option.*

### FOUR

---

**Always buy extra.** *Things can and will go wrong during the printing process so it's best to come prepared. Plus, having some extra paper on hand allows you test print your invitations ahead of time, saving you time and money down the road.*

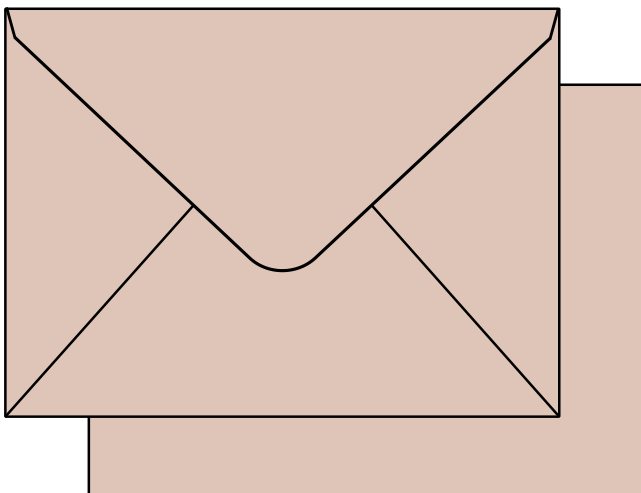
---

*Our templates come in standard sizes to make ordering paper and envelopes as easy and economical as possible. But keep in mind which additional pieces are essential and which you can do without to save even more money on supplies.*

---

## STEP 3: CHOOSE YOUR ENVELOPES

*Here are the envelope sizes we recommend to go perfectly with our templates.*



| TEMPLATE                     | ENVELOPE  |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| <i>Invitations (5x7")</i>    | <i>A7</i> |
| <i>Save the Dates (5x7")</i> | <i>A7</i> |
| <i>RSVP Cards (4x5½")</i>    | <i>A2</i> |

## STEP 4: ORDER YOUR CARDSTOCK AND MAIL YOUR INVITATIONS

*Wondering how far in advance you need to order your cardstock and finalize your invitations?  
Don't worry, we've got you covered.*

| WHAT YOU NEED TO DO...  | WHEN...                              |                                |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|   | <i>If it's a destination wedding</i> | <i>If it's a local wedding</i> |
| <i>Determine the general size of the guest list<br/>Finalize the stationery budget</i>  | 15+<br>MONTHS                        | 11+<br>MONTHS                  |
| <i>Purchase invitation and save the date templates</i>  | 10-15<br>MONTHS                      | 8-11<br>MONTHS                 |
| <i>Purchase save the date paper and envelopes<br/>Gather final guest list and addresses<br/>Begin customizing save the date</i> | 8-10<br>MONTHS                       | 6-8<br>MONTHS                  |
| <i>Address and mail save the date<br/>Gather important details for invitations</i>  | 6-8<br>MONTHS                        | 4-6<br>MONTHS                  |
| <i>Order invitation &amp; RSVP paper and envelopes<br/>Start personalizing invitations</i>                                      | 7<br>MONTHS                          | 6<br>MONTHS                    |
| <i>Test print your invitations</i>  | 6<br>MONTHS                          | 5<br>MONTHS                    |
| <i>Start finalizing reception pieces, invitation inserts and day-of stationery</i>  | 5<br>MONTHS                          | 4<br>MONTHS                    |
| <i>Address and assemble invitations</i>   | 4<br>MONTHS                          | 3<br>MONTHS                    |
| <i>Mail invitations</i>   | 3<br>MONTHS                          | 2<br>MONTHS                    |

*See it's not so intimidating, right?*

HAVE A QUESTION THAT WE DIDN'T COVER? FEEL FREE TO SEND US A MESSAGE!



[pipkinpaperco@gmail.com](mailto:pipkinpaperco@gmail.com)



[pipkinpapercompany.com](http://pipkinpapercompany.com)



[etsy.com/shop/pipkinpapercompany](http://etsy.com/shop/pipkinpapercompany)