

"Somerset papers are consistently perfect. The quality is exceptional, and I can confidently know that my editions will be archival, consistent, and clean.

- Kathy Anderson

Somerset® is a world leading traditional printmaking paper made by St Cuthberts Mill. It is engineered for the rigours of different printmaking techniques, and made to be slightly absorbent (soft sized) to absorb the printmaking ink. Within its recipe there are no animal products.

A professional printmaking paper, traditionally made on a cylinder mould machine using 100% cotton and known for its consistency for editions. The cotton fibres inside the sheet are more randomly placed, giving a more dimensionally stable sheet that remains flatter, making it suitable for the registration with multicolour printing.

Its elegant surface is created using natural woollen felts that give it a distinctive random texture. Somerset® is made to high archival standards.



Surfaces / Weights: Book - 115, 175g/m<sup>2</sup> Satin - 250, 300, 500g/m<sup>2</sup> Velvet - 250, 300, 280, 330g/m<sup>2</sup> Textured - 250, 300, 500g/m<sup>2</sup>

Formats: Sheets, Rolls

**Grain Direction:** Long Grain (full size sheets)



100% cotton



Mould made



**Archival** 



Acid free



No animal products



Free from optical brightening agents Except Radiant White Shade



Fungicidal treatment

Shades:

Radiant White, White, Soft White, Antique, Buff, Newsprint Grey



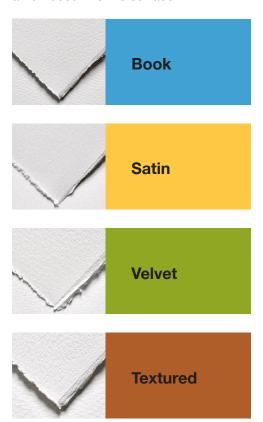
# **Characteristics for printmaking**

Intaglio- Allows dampening, pliable when damp, picks up fine detail, withstands the pull of the plate.

Lithography- Free from additives that disrupt the litho process.

**Silkscreen-** Prints bright saturated colours. Excellent colour reproduction.

Relief- Heavy weight papers to create an emboss into the surface.



# somerset®

Somerset<sup>®</sup> is designed to make beautiful handmade original prints. It is suitable for use with the main printmaking techniques and their numerous subgroups.

The different Somerset® papers are perfect for editions due to their consistency. These papers are tactile, look attractive and are dimensionally stable for layering multiple colours. The paper is strong to withstand printing without the surface picking. Somerset® is pliable when damp, and moulds into an emboss without cracking. The beauty of Somerset® papers enhances the finished print.

## **Authenticity** (full size sheets)

- Watermarked twice on the long edge with 'somerset' bottom right and top left
- Embossed with St Cuthberts cross bottom left edge
- 4 Deckle edges (2 natural, 2 torn by hand\*)

 $^*660 \times 1016$ mm and 1188  $\times 889$ mm sheets have 2 deckle/2 cut edges and no watermark. 760  $\times 560$ mm in 280g/m² 3 deckle/1 cut edge and 1 watermark

### **Archival**

Somerset® is an archival quality paper. Made with 100% cotton, that is naturally a high source of alpha cellulose that stops the paper from degrading over time. Each sheet is buffered with calcium carbonate to help defend finished work from discolouration caused by acids present in pollution. The shades are fade resistant created with lightfast pigments, reaching Blue Wool Scale 6+ (including the Radiant White shade which has a small amount of OBA). The manufacturing/sizing process is acid free.

### **Environment**

St Cuthberts Mill endeavours to work in harmony with the natural environment, carefully sourcing raw materials from sustainable sources. The cotton linters used in Somerset® are a by-product of the textile industry. Successfully recycling paper waste during manufacturer into new paper, hence every sheet contains a percentage of fibres that have been reclaimed and successfully recycled. The mill takes great care to protect its local environment, returning clean water back to the River Axe, having removed all traces of paper additives.

# **About St Cuthberts Mill**

Situated in the Southwest of England, in the beautiful countryside of Somerset. The Somerset® paper is named after the county where it is made. St Cuthberts Mill has been making paper since the 1700's, taking advantage of the pure waters of the River Axe. Experts in making archival artists papers, with a reputation for the consistent quality of high end papers. The St Cuthberts Mill name is a hallmark of quality.

Somerset is a trademark of St Cuthberts Mill

