

Sustainable Printer Paper

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by Jim

I went to the resource Centre in Brighton today to find out if there were any good tips on getting sustainable paper. They use a paper mill source because they use a large amount of paper, and to get it direct saves a lot of money. However, this paper may not be as completely sustainable as you might wish.

There are, I think, at least three criteria to judge whether the paper is sustainable:

- Is it made completely out of recycled material?
- Does it not use a chlorine bleach process to whiten it?
- If it is not all recycled, does it verifiably come from replanted forests?

Kate at the Resource Centre came up with some useful keywords for a Google search, which I tried later.

There are two Google searches I would recommend if you want to investigate this piece, one from office supplier Eurooffice, which its advertising says is the largest UK office supplies company. I don't know the status of their corporate governance, but my intuition is to prefer them to other office suppliers like Viking, which seems more expensive anyway.

If you are in an organisation, what I would suggest from Eurooffice is the Revive business copier paper at £4.17 per 500 sheets. This is 100% recycled from 100% recycled fibre, and has colour OK technology. The weight of the paper is 80 gsm, which is fine; I don't think most people need 100 gsm, the cost of which is £7.49 anyway. Eurooffice does free delivery on orders over £30. If you don't want to spend that much, a number of people might be very happy to purchase 1,000 sheets to make it up to £30.

The other Google search option is from the Small Green Stationery Shop, which is part of an office supplies company. It is based in Bath, and delivery is at a fixed price of £3.50 per order. This has the Evolution Everyday 100 A4 80 gsm paper at £6.95. It is manufactured without bleaching. The white 100 gsm paper from the same company is £9.50.