

# Duplexing

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## Definition

Duplexing lets you literally build your own one-of-a-kind material, by bonding two or more papers together to form a single board. Duplexing usually takes place after the sheets have been printed or transformed. The process creates a thicker, more rigid final material, which can be double sided or reveal a middle colour on the edge - but it requires a bit of caution, as the number of variables interacting can be high.

## Dos

- Do experiment with different colours, textures and finishes, for example mixing Curious Collection Matter with Curious Collection Skin.
- Do consider duplexing print jobs beyond invitations and business cards: you can also create brochure covers, bookmarks, folders... You can also create any shape, not necessarily rectangles.
- Do use die-cutting to reveal the colour of the second sheet through the cut.
- Do keep the grain direction the same for duplexes, otherwise you can get a twist curl. For triplexes, you can switch fibre direction in each sheet for more strength.
- Do pick heavy, bulky boards to create a thicker edge.
- Do make the most of multiplexing in order to hide the indent made on the back of a card which contains embossing or hot foil stamping, for example. This also makes it possible to emboss or hot stamp both sides of the card.

## Don'ts

- Don't combine different weights without precaution. If you really want to use different weights to play with the thickness of the edges, run some tests first. The sandwich should be balanced and symmetrical, for example 160g/320g/160g or 300g/300g.
- Don't laminate light papers, below 175g, unless you do it manually. You could then use papers from 135g.
- Don't limit yourself to duplexing 2 sheets of paper: you can easily laminate up to 6 sheets of paper / 5mm. This enables you to reveal a colour detail on the edge of the printed piece.
- Don't laminate deeply embossed or hot stamped papers. Laminating papers which are heavily embossed (more than one or two levels) may damage their shape. In addition, the embossed part of the paper should not represent more than 50% of the surface, to ensure that the layers remain stuck together properly.

