



GRAIN DIRECTION

One or more of the following five tests will determine the direction of the grain:

1. Cut a sample about 2 inches square from the sheet marking its original position in the sheet. Wet one side. As it dries it will curl.
2. Moisten two right angle edges of the sheet, and press between the fingers. As the sheet dries, the edge across the grain will be wavy; with the grain, straight.
3. Tear the sheet in two directions. It tears straighter and cleaner with the grain.
4. Fold the sheet in two directions. It folds easier and smoother with the grain.
5. If the paper has a laid finish, the grain is usually parallel to the chain marks (widely-spaced lines) and across the wire marks (closely-spaced lines). This is not a conclusive test because paper is sometimes made with the chain marks running across the grain.