

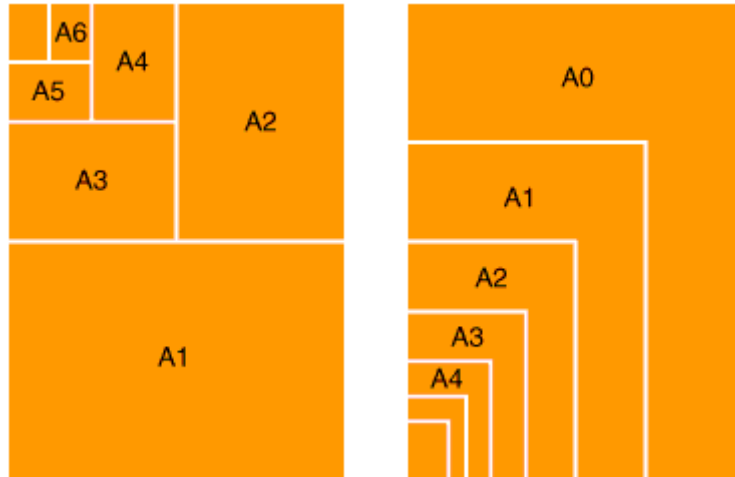
Chart of ISO Paper Sizes

The most common system of paper sizes in the UK and Europe is the ISO standard. Most people are familiar with the **A** series which includes **A4** (highlighted on the chart) the usual letterhead size. The **C** series is for envelopes - A **C4** envelope being ideal for holding an **A4** sheet. There is also a **B** series which provides intermediate sizes for the **A** series but this is rarely used. **DL** is a special size for envelopes designed to accept **A4** paper folded in three.

All sizes are given in millimeters.

	A	B	C	RA	SRA
Sheet Size 0	841 x 1189	1000 x 141	917 x 1296	860 x 1220	900 x 1280
Sheet Size 1	594 x 841	707 x 1000	648 x 917	610 x 860	640 x 900
Sheet Size 2	420 x 594	500 x 700	458 x 648	430 x 610	450 x 640
Sheet Size 3	297 x 420	353 x 500	324 x 458	305 x 430	320 x 450
Sheet Size 4	210 x 297	250 x 353	229 x 324	215 x 305	225 x 320
Sheet Size 5	148 x 210	176 x 250	162 x 229	152 x 215	160 x 225
Sheet Size 6	105 x 148	125 x 176	114 x 162	107 x 152	112 x 160
Sheet Size 7	74 x 105	88 x 125	81 x 114	76 x 107	80 x 112
Sheet Size 8	52 x 74	62 x 88	57 x 81	53 x 76	56 x 80

The aspect ratio of ISO paper sheets is 1 to 1.414 (The square root of 2). This gives them a unique property: If you cut a sheet into two the resulting halves are the same proportions as the original. In other words a sheet of **A4** when halved gives you two sheets of **A5**. All A size papers have the same proportions. The largest sheet in this series is **A0** which is 841mm x 1189mm and just happens to be one square metre in area (ISO paper sizes are rounded to the nearest millimetre).



Two other series which you may come across are **RA** and **SRA** which are used by printers. They are slightly larger than the **A** series to provide for grip, trim and bleed.

Of course you can use any size of paper you choose. However, most paper merchants supply ISO sized stock so it is most cost effective to stay with **A** sizes.

Use of the ISO system is much rarer in the USA.