

# Paper Grain

When preparing a project for binding, it is very important to consider the direction of the paper grain in relation to the binding edge. A simple way to illustrate the importance of paper grain direction is toothpicks.

Like toothpicks, if you bind against the paper grain, the paper wants to stand up or break at the spine due to stress on the spine (see images below).

If you bind parallel to the grain, the papers lay flat with flexibility and much less stress on the spine.

