

The Secret to Better Scoring

No matter how skilled you are at designing cards, it will always look more professional when you make clean, crisp score lines and folds.

1. Always score your card stock before you fold it because it may crack if you try to fold it with first stretching the fibers.
2. You should always score with the grain of the paper, if possible to avoid cracking. This is especially important when scoring textured paper. On an 8 1/5" x 11" piece of card stock, the grain generally usually runs down the 11" length.

In order to find which way the grain is running, cup the paper in your hands bringing the sides together. If it bends easily this is the grain of the paper.

Now, turn the paper in the other direction and repeat the process. You should find the paper will not bend as easily...you should feel the paper resisting slightly.

3. It is always best to fold your card so that the score line is to the OUTSIDE of the fold. The bump goes to the inside. This gives a neater appearance to the inside of the fold.

When you make the score line, you are spreading the fibers of the card stock to make them ready for the fold. So, if you fold so the score line is to the inside you are squashing the fibers you just spread apart.

This is especially important when you're working with textured card stock. You always want the texture facing up when you score and you then fold downwards, away from you...a mountain fold.

4. Always use a bone folder to ensure clean score lines.
5. Using the Score Pal, Simply Scored or a similar tool is very helpful when scoring as it ensures even pressure for the entire length of the score.

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