

Bookbinding - Essentials

Trimming A Book With The Guillotine

The Printmaking Workshop is equipped with an electric guillotine for the trimming of books and cutting of large quantities of paper.

If you wish to have a book trimmed you will need to know at what point in the making is best to trim it. The type of binding will have a impact on when the trimming can be done.

For example, a traditional case binding would require the bookblock to be trimmed prior to casing in as the case overhangs the block on the head, tail and fore-edge.

Whereas, a perfect bound book with a wrap-around cover could be trimmed after the cover has been fitted.

If you are in doubt ask the technician for advice.

The technician will also require the dimensions from you to cut the book quickly and accurately.

These are:

- A** The spine edge to the fore-edge crop mark or desired trim line. (for accuracy measure these at the head and tail)
- B** The bottom edge of the paper to the head crop mark.
- C** The finished height of the book.

Always double-check your measurements to ensure no content close to the edges of the book will be lost. Thicker sections or bookblocks will result in the centre pages protruding at the fore-edge (creep) and may be necessary to compensate the margins in your

