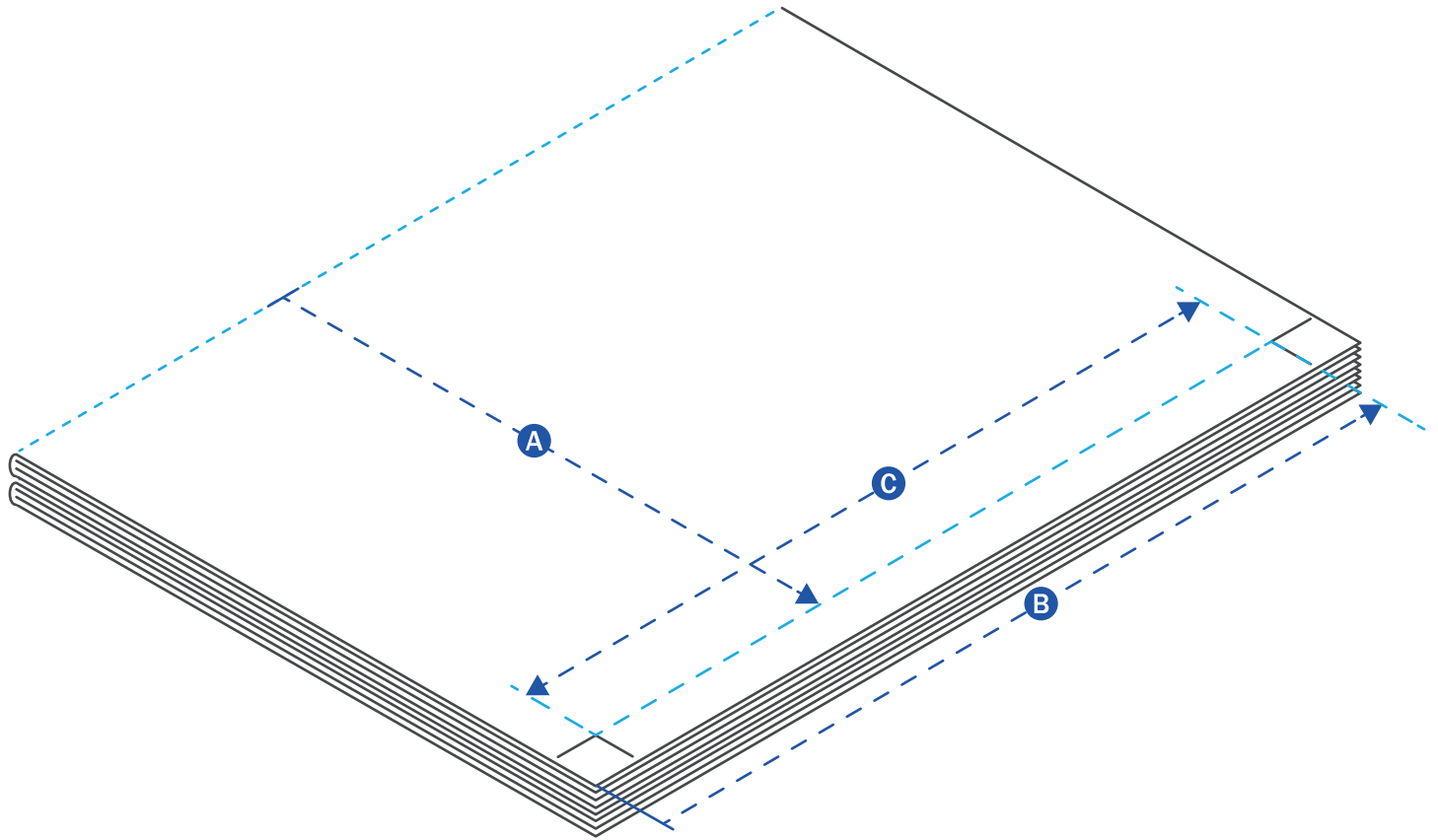


Trimming A Book With The Guillotine



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 an impact on when the trimming can be done.

For example, a traditional case binding would require the book-block 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.

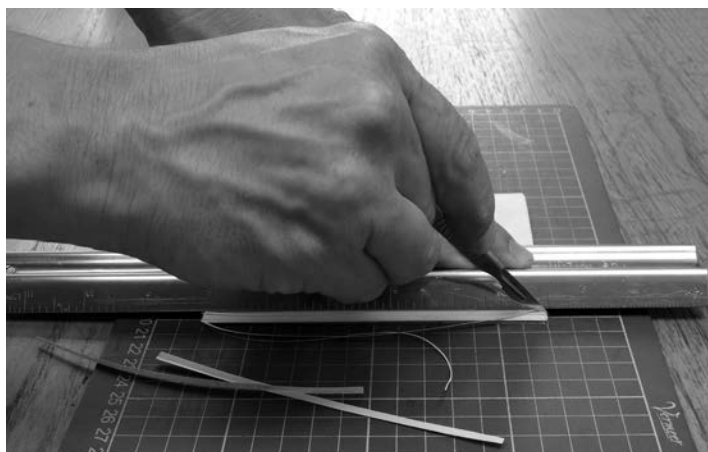
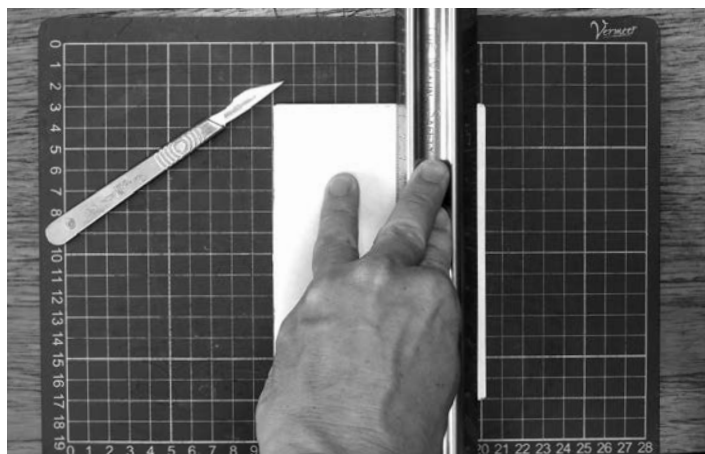
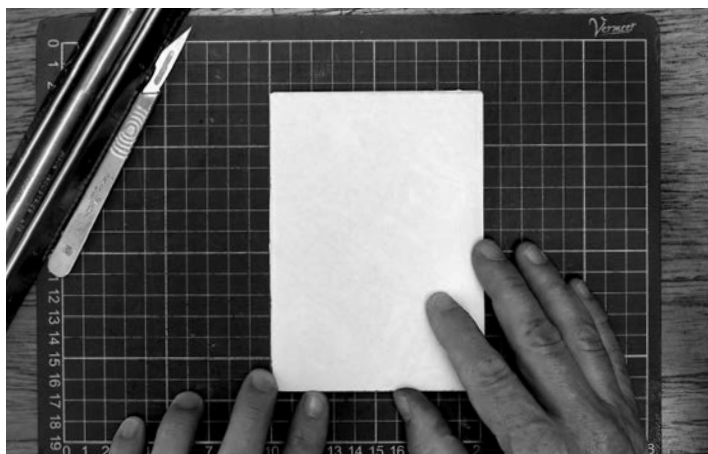
These are:

- 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 book-blocks will result in the centre pages protruding at the fore-edge (creep) and may be necessary to compensate the margins in your design to avoid cutting content.

Bookbinding - Essentials

Trimming A Book With A Scalpel



You can trim your book with a scalpel if you don't have access to a guillotine. This technique is suitable for thin books made up of one or two sections. For books with more sections it is recommended to trim the sections individually before making the book-block. You will need a cutting mat, metal ruler and scalpel with a new blade.

01. Always trim the fore-edge first. Line up the spine of the book with the grid on a cutting mat.
02. Place a metal ruler on the fore-edge leaving as much of the edge that you wish to trim. Ensure your ruler is square to the grid and in turn parallel to the spine.
03. Hold the ruler firmly in place (it is best to stand at the work surface to do this).
04. Use a scalpel with a fresh blade, gently cut from the head to the tail with repeated light strokes will cut the book more efficiently and with a cleaner finish.
05. Cut the head and tail in the same manner. Ensure the ruler is square to the spine by using the grid of the cutting mat or a set square.
06. Carefully and gently cut from the spine towards the fore-edge with repeated light strokes.