EUWID Price Watch UK

September 2025

Prices in £ per tonne free delivered unless otherwise stated	September 2025 £	September 2025 €*	August 2025 £	September 2024 £
Fine paper				
Woodfree uncoated				
Copy paper 80 g A4 B grade	770 - 840	886 - 966	790 - 860	890 - 1,000
Copy paper 80 g A4 C grade	730 - 810	839 - 932	750 - 830	860 - 970
Offset sheets 80 g	830 - 890	955 - 1,024	860 - 920	920 - 1,010
Offset reels 80 g	760 - 820	874 - 943	790 - 850	860 - 970
Woodfree coated				
Sheets, double coated, 115 g	850 - 920	978 - 1,058	870 - 940	940 - 1,010
Reels, double coated, 100 g	780 - 840	897 - 966	790 - 850	860 - 950
Publication paper				
Standard newsprint 45 g	480 - 510	552 - 587	480 - 510	480 - 510
Standard newsprint 42.5 g	490 - 520	564 - 598	490 - 520	490 - 520
Standard newsprint 40 g	500 - 530	575 - 610	500 - 530	500 - 530
Improved newsprint 52 g, ISO 68	530 - 560	610 - 644	530 - 560	530 - 560
LWC offset 60 g	660 - 700	759 - 805	660 - 700	680 - 730
SC offset 56 g (A)	580 - 610	667 - 702	580 - 610	600 - 640
Corrugated case material				
Primary fibre corrugated case material				
Unbleached kraftliner 175 g+, European quality	695 - 745	799 - 857	720 - 745	690 - 770
White-top kraftliner 140 g, European quality	805 - 875	926 - 1,006	805 - 875	795 - 865
Recycled corrugated case material				
Recycled fluting 100 g	530 - 580	610 - 667	530 - 585	565 - 595
Recycled fluting 90 g	530 - 585	610 - 673	530 - 590	565 - 600
Recycled fluting 85 g	540 - 595	621 - 684	540 - 600	575 - 610
Testliner II	550 - 600	633 - 690	550 - 605	585 - 615
Testliner III	530 - 580	610 - 667	530 - 585	565 - 595
White-top testliner, grade B, 140 g	640 - 700	736 - 805	660 - 720	670 - 720
Cartonboard				
GD II	600 - 680	690 - 782	600 - 690	650 - 750
GC II	910 - 1,010	1,047 - 1,162	910 - 1,010	900 - 1,010

* Exchange rate as of 19 September 2025: £1 = €1.15

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Prices for brown kraftliner fell by £25/t, partly in August and partly in September. White-top kraftliner prices saw no changes, reflecting its previously muted upward movement. Brown recycled corrugated case material prices were cut by £25/t as of 1 August, while white-top testliner became cheaper by £20/t, with implementation either in August or September.

Negotiations are currently underway for further price reductions of £20-25/t for October deliveries, in line with what happened in continental Europe. The fact that producers on the continent are also discussing price increases for October is met with indifference in the UK. "We understand the economic pressure on producers, but the market is absolutely not ready for such a move," one player commented. Another warned that producers risk undermining credibility with such announcements: "At best, they can stop the downward trend."

Even if a price increase was to be implemented in Europe in October, market participants doubt that the UK would follow suit the following month, as has been the usual practice. Sceptics point out that November coincides with 2026 budget talks, a time more likely to see concessions than increases. Some even believe a UK increase will never be implemented and will then be rolled back on the continent, much as happened earlier this year.

Sheet feeders and sheet plants reported stronger activity after weak utilisation during the summer. Some mills now have order backlogs of three to four weeks. "We expect good utilisation until the end of the year," one packaging producer said. This is also seen as linked to UK capacity closures in corrugated sheet and packaging production.

Price developments in sheets and packaging were mixed. Some suppliers passed on falling paper costs to their customers, while others held prices steady after previously absorbing increases for containerboard.

Packaging and display prices thus also varied. "Margins remain under heavy pressure," one contact noted, explaining that many businesses are scrutinising every order, customer and line individually for profitability.

Further consolidation in this tough environment seems inevitable, not least because Eren Paper, part of Turkish Modern Karton Group, remains in acquisition mode. Alongside speculation about delays in commissioning its new 750,000 tpy machine in Shotton, it is expected that Eren will expand its UK presence through further acquisitions of sheet feeders and sheet plants. Following its purchase of Onboard and Diamond Box, further targets are thought to be under discussion, with rumours of deals already concluded or imminent.

Significant investment is also underway: Cepac is investing more than £50m in Rotherham, while Board24 is modernising sites in England after

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