

EUWID Price Watch UK

September 2026

Prices in £ per tonne free delivered unless otherwise stated	September 2026 £	September 2026 €*	August 2026 £	September 2025 £
Fine paper				
Woodfree uncoated				
Copy paper 80 g A4 B grade	760 - 830	882 - 963	770 - 860	770 - 840
Copy paper 80 g A4 C grade	710 - 810	824 - 940	720 - 830	730 - 810
Offset sheets 80 g	810 - 870	940 - 1,009	830 - 890	830 - 890
Offset reels 80 g	740 - 810	858 - 940	750 - 830	760 - 820
Woodfree coated				
Sheets, double coated, 115 g	830 - 900	963 - 1,044	850 - 940	850 - 920
Reels, double coated, 100 g	780 - 830	905 - 963	800 - 870	780 - 840
Publication paper				
Standard newsprint 45 g	510 - 540	591 - 626	510 - 540	480 - 510
Standard newsprint 42.5 g	520 - 550	603 - 638	520 - 550	490 - 520
Standard newsprint 40 g	530 - 560	615 - 650	530 - 560	500 - 530
Improved newsprint 52 g, ISO 68	560 - 590	650 - 684	560 - 590	530 - 560
LWC offset 60 g	690 - 720	800 - 835	690 - 720	660 - 700
SC offset 56 g (A)	590 - 610	684 - 708	590 - 610	580 - 610
Corrugated case material				
Primary fibre corrugated case material				
Unbleached kraftliner 175 g+, European quality	770 - 810	893 - 940	770 - 810	695 - 745
White-top kraftliner 140 g, European quality	865 - 945	1,003 - 1,096	865 - 945	805 - 875
Recycled corrugated case material				
Recycled fluting 100 g	585 - 655	679 - 760	585 - 655	530 - 580
Recycled fluting 90 g	585 - 660	679 - 766	585 - 660	530 - 585
Recycled fluting 85 g	595 - 670	690 - 777	595 - 670	540 - 595
Testliner 2	605 - 675	702 - 783	605 - 675	550 - 600
Testliner 3	585 - 655	679 - 760	585 - 655	530 - 580
White-top testliner, grade B, 140 g	675 - 725	783 - 841	675 - 725	640 - 700
Cartonboard				
GD 2	600 - 670	696 - 777	600 - 670	600 - 680
GC 2	880 - 1,030	1,021 - 1,195	880 - 1,030	910 - 1,010

* Exchange rate as of 25 September 2026: £1 = €1.16

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European printing and writing paper industry is stalling due to the planned joint venture between UPM and Sappi. Particularly in the coated mechanical paper segment, where the two companies account for a large proportion of existing production capacity, there is a need to adjust capacity levels. However, no decisions on capacity management are likely to be taken until a final decision on the planned merger has been reached.

Uncertainty over new containerboard prices weighs on UK corrugated market

Demand for containerboard and corrugated sheets and boxes in the UK remained generally satisfactory in September, but with few exceptions it was far from buoyant. Against this backdrop, the latest round of proposed containerboard price increases is proving highly contentious. Even in the penultimate week of the month, considerable uncertainty remained over what prices would actually apply in October.

Producers are seeking increases of £70-75/t for brown kraftliner. For white-top kraftliner and brown recycled containerboard, the proposed increases are around £50/t, while about £35/t is being discussed for white-top testliner.

Suppliers report tight availability of kraftliner. Some recycled grades are also said to be difficult to source at short notice in the UK. Converters, however, do not share the view that there is any genuine shortage. They say all required volumes can still be obtained in the right quantities and at the required time.

Converters are highly sceptical about the paper producers' current pricing plans. One point of criticism is the short notice given for some of the increases. At least one supplier is said to have informed customers only around three weeks before the planned implementation at the beginning of October.

"We are in constant contact with our suppliers and still do not have any clarity about what prices

will apply from October," one converter complained. Paper suppliers also confirmed that negotiations had dragged on unusually long on the UK market in September. Price increases were extremely unwelcome, one converter told EUWID, but the continuing uncertainty was even worse.

Many converters are also still dealing with the effects of the paper price increases implemented in the spring. Due to quarterly or other longer-term contracts, these can in some cases only be passed on to customers with a considerable delay, for example from the fourth quarter. By that point, however, the next round of paper price increases would already be under way.

Corrugated packaging producers also see little scope to pass higher paper prices on to their customers. The last paper price increase in the spring triggered a "wave" of tenders from major corrugated packaging buyers, causing considerable nervousness and shifts in the market. For many com-

► continued on page 6