

greenprint

your guide to
greener printing



At Lil Creative Studio, we prioritise working with printers who align with our sustainability values.

Our **greenprint** guide serves as a checklist to assess a printer's environmental credentials and ensure responsible print production.

1. Environmental Accreditation

Does the printer hold any recognised environmental certifications?

For example:

- **ISO 14001** (Environmental Management System)
- **Green Small Business** accreditation
- **B Corporation** certification
- **Woodland Trust Carbon Capture** scheme



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2. Carbon reduction

How does the printer manage its energy and emissions in their operations?

We consider:

- Use of **renewable energy sources** (e.g., wind, hydro, green tariffs)
- Installation of solar panels for **self-generated energy**
- Use of a fleet of **electric or low-emission vehicles**
- **Carbon neutral** – offsetting unavoidable emissions through verified schemes



3. Material Sourcing

Does the printer use sustainable paper stock? We look for:

Paper:

- **FSC** (Forest Stewardship Council) or **PEFC** (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification) certified paper
- **100% recycled** paper options

Signage & Display Materials:

- **Recyclable boards** (e.g., DISPA®, Falconboard®, Reboard® instead of PVC)
- Aluminium composite panels with **recycled content**
- **Biodegradable or reusable** fabric banners rather than PVC banners



4. Printing Process

What sustainable methods are used in production?

We check for:

- **Waterless printing** to reduce chemical and water waste
- **Vegetable-based, Soy-based or Algae-based inks** instead of petroleum-based inks
- **Eco-solvent, latex, or UV LED inks** for signage and large-format printing (avoiding solvent-based inks with high VOC emissions)
- **Water-based coatings** instead of plastic-based coatings for durability without compromising recyclability

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5. Product Lifecycle

Is the final product fully recyclable?

We aim to use:

- **Stitched, loop, or staple bindings** that are easier to separate for recycling
- **Plastic-free fixings** for signage (e.g., reusable clips, magnetic or mechanical fixings instead of adhesives)
- **Take-back schemes**: does the printer offer a return system for signage, banners, or packaging?
- **Compostable materials**: Are there options for signage and print that can break down naturally at the end of their life?
- **Upcycling potential**: Can materials be repurposed for secondary use instead of immediate disposal?



6. Printer Location

We prioritise working with printers local to the client to minimise transport emissions.

Our guidelines:

- Urban areas – **within 20 miles** of the delivery location
- Rural/remote areas – **within 50 miles** (e.g., Cumbria)

