

## **Paper SPECS**

There are many varieties, weights, colors and surfaces of paper to choose from, but not all are suitable for use in creating scrolls. Here are things to consider when shopping for paper.

### **Weight**

In the US, paper weight corresponds to the thickness of the paper. 140lb paper is a suitable support for paint, gold leaf and seals and a common preference for scribes. 90lb paper can be used where the work is mostly calligraphy with minimal illumination. Some Artists may prefer to use papers heavier than 140lb.

### **Surfaces**

Watercolor papers come in three surfaces, Hot-press, Cold-press and Rough. Hot-press has the smoothest surface of the three and is the best choice for scribal work.

### **Sizing**

Sizing helps to stop ink from bleeding through the paper fibers. For Scroll work, it is best to select papers that are "sized". If you find really nice paper that has not been sized, treating the surface with gum sandarac may help keep the ink from bleeding.

### **Neutral pH, Acid-free or Archival**

Paper that is Neutral pH, Acid-free or Archival resists yellowing and stands up better to light exposure, allowing for a much longer lifespan.

### **Dimensions**

Affordable Fine Artist Papers usually come in 22" x 30" sheets. Because custom frames are so expensive, it is a kindness to the recipient to cut the sheets into standard picture frame sizes.

**Note:** Blank paper and finished work should be stored flat. Never roll a paper scroll for storage or transport.