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economical option than printing an entire book in full-colour. In printing terminology this is referred to as printing “4/1”, as opposed to “4/4” (printing full-colour or four inks on both sides of the sheet) or “1/1” (printing only black or a single spot colour on both sides of the sheet).
This booklet is printed on an SRA3 (450 x 320mm) sheet of 80gsm Biotop. The grain direction runs parallel to the shorter (320mm) side of the sheet. This is referred to as short-grain: labelled SG or BL (*breedlopend* in Dutch) — as opposed to long grain: labelled LG or LL (*langlopend*). A short-grain sheet is chosen for this 16-page imposition in order for the grain to run parallel to the spine, allowing the pages to turn and lay open easily. This isn't a particularly important consideration for a thin booklet such as this, but for a thicker book with hundreds of pages it is.

imposition reference

16 pages

1

sig.4: p.49 sig.3: p.33 sig.2: p.17 side A

sig.2: p.24 sig.3: p.40 sig.4: p.56 side A

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To ensure your pages run in the correct order you must also ensure the sheet is correctly oriented when printing the 2nd side. There are two ways of flipping a sheet when printing both sides — on the short edge, also referred to as “work-and-tumble” or on the long edge, referred to as “work-and-turn”. This booklet is flipped on the short edge. On the untrimmed version there is a marking to point this out.
The large numbers in the corner of these pages show the current page number. The smaller page numbers underneath show the hypothetical page numbering if this 16 page booklet were signature number 2 (pages 17-32) or 3 (pages 33-48) or 4 (pages 49-64) instead of signature number 1.
Imposition work is typically done by the printer — the document you send will be in reading order (page 1, page 2, page 3, etc.)

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side A sig.4: p.64 sig.3: p.48 sig.2: p.32

side A sig.2: p.25 sig.3: p.41 sig.4: p.57

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and as part of their prepress process they will arrange the pages in the correct position for the printing sheet. When printing a publication yourself, you will need to make the imposition yourself, either by using the features of a printer driver (such as a ‘print booklet’ option), or imposition software and plugins, or by manually rearranging the pages in your design software of choice.

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sig.4: p.61 sig.3: p.45 sig.2: p.29 side A

sig.2: p.28 sig.3: p.44 sig.4: p.60 side A

glossary

- imposition: the arrangement of pages onto a printing sheet to result in proper reading sequence once folded and bound
- pagination: the numbering of pages in a document, depending on the signature size the total page count must be a multiple of 4, 8, 16 or 32
- printer spreads: document pages arranged in the order neccessary to print, resulting in proper reading sequence once folded and bound
- reader spreads: document pages arranged in sequential reading order (page 1, page 2, page 3, etc.)
- signature: 4, 8, 16 or 32 page section of a book or booklet made from either a single folded sheet, or multiple folded sheets nested together

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This booklet serves as a reference for a 16 page imposition on an A3 sheet of paper with a maximum printable area of 288 x 412mm. The page dimensions are 90 x 130mm and there are 8 pages on each side of the sheet. This booklet is accompanied by a flat, untrimmed sheet version to show how the pages are arranged on both sides.
This side (A) is printed in red ink, and the other side (B) — is printed in grey ink, using a RISO MH9350 at the Rijksakademie Print Lab. You can observe that by printing both sides of the sheet in different inks results in a pattern of alternating colour across alternating spreads (2 pages in red followed by 2 pages in grey followed by 2 pages in red followed by 2 pages grey, and so on). This knowledge can also be applied to offset and digital printing, for example, to print half a book in black and half in full colour (CMYK) — as a more

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side A sig.4: p.52 sig.3: p.36 sig.2: p.20

side A sig.2: p.21 sig.3: p.37 sig.4: p.53



side B sig.2: p.23 sig.3: p.39 sig.4: p.55

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side B sig.4: p.58 sig.3: p.42 sig.2: p.26

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side B sig.2: p.27 sig.3: p.43 sig.4: p.59

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side B sig.4: p.54 sig.3: p.38 sig.2: p.22

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side B sig.4: p.50 sig.3: p.34 sig.2: p.18



side B sig.4: p.63 sig.3: p.47 sig.2: p.31

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side B sig.4: p.62 sig.3: p.46 sig.2: p.30



side B sig.4: p.51 sig.3: p.35 sig.2: p.19

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