

# Card Stock Care

Taking care of blank card stock is important for ensuring efficient printing and high-quality end product.

Before printing, handle ID cards only by their edges or use gloves to protect your print quality. Improperly handling cards before printing can create flaws in your card stock that will be reflected or even magnified in your printed cards. Here is an example showing clearly defined fingerprints on a card that was not handled using the proper technique.

**Improperly Handled Cards (after printing)**



Another example of an improperly handled card shows the effect dust and debris can have on cards after printing. Leftover particles can cause scratches, streaking, and discoloration.

**Properly Handled Card (after printing)**



When cards are correctly handled by their edges or gloves are used, you'll help ensure you get the best printing results possible. This example of a properly handled card has no blotches, smudges, streaks, or fingerprints.

## How To Quick Guide

- 1.** Handle ID cards only by the edges or use gloves to prevent fingerprints and other imperfections.
- 2.** Keep cards in the case they came in, or in an air-and-watertight container.
- 3.** Inspect cards before feeding them into the printer, and keep a dust cloth handy to wipe off any dust or debris that may appear.
- 4.** Store blank card stock in a temperature controlled area.

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