

Mechanical Binding Basics

What are the advantages of Mechanical Binding?

When your books need to have true lay-flat capabilities and a clean, modern appearance, mechanical binding is the style of choice. All four mechanical binding styles can accommodate foldouts, tabs and inserts, and are available in many colors. Several cover options, including semi-concealed, fully concealed, and cased-in, offer even greater design flexibility.

What is Wire-O Binding?



The flexibility and versatility of Wire-O binding makes it an ideal solution for a wide range of projects. Wire-O binding is also sometimes referred to as Double Loop binding. Wire-O bound books will lay perfectly flat and fold 360 degrees for single-hand use. At Eckhart & Company, Wire-O products can be produced on our two fully automatic

Bielomatik machines, which allow us to provide you with optimum production quality and rapid turnaround times.

Additionally, Cased-in Wire-O is a great look that creates a hard cover to provide protection to the binding elements. Fully concealed Wire-O covers wrap around the book, using a series of scores to form the spine and inside back cover. When closed, the wire elements are hidden from view. Semi-concealed Wire-O covers partially obscure the binding, only making it visible through the back cover. All these options retain lay flat capability of Wire-O binding and allow you to print onto the spine.

What is Spiral Wire Binding?

This economical binding solution is commonly used for projects such as calendars and notebooks. Spiral Wire allows books to lay flat, but with a "step up" it will hinder the appearance of crossover images. At Eckhart & Company, we can automatically produce up to a 2" spiral coil.



What is Plastic Comb Binding?



This binding style uses a thick comb to bind the book. Plastic comb does not step up when opened, making it ideal for projects with crossover images. In addition, plastic combs can be printed to allow titles to be read from a bookshelf.

What is Plastic Spiral Binding?

A similar style to spiral wire that uses plastic binding elements. Like spiral wire, plastic spiral-bound books also step up when opened. One advantage to plastic wire binding; the plastic elements resist crushing, making it suitable for high-abuse applications.



A mechanical binding provider with a wide range of production options can help turn even your most unconventional designs into reality. At Eckhart & Company, we can combine our extensive mechanical binding and information packaging capabilities to offer you an unparalleled array of solutions for your book projects.

