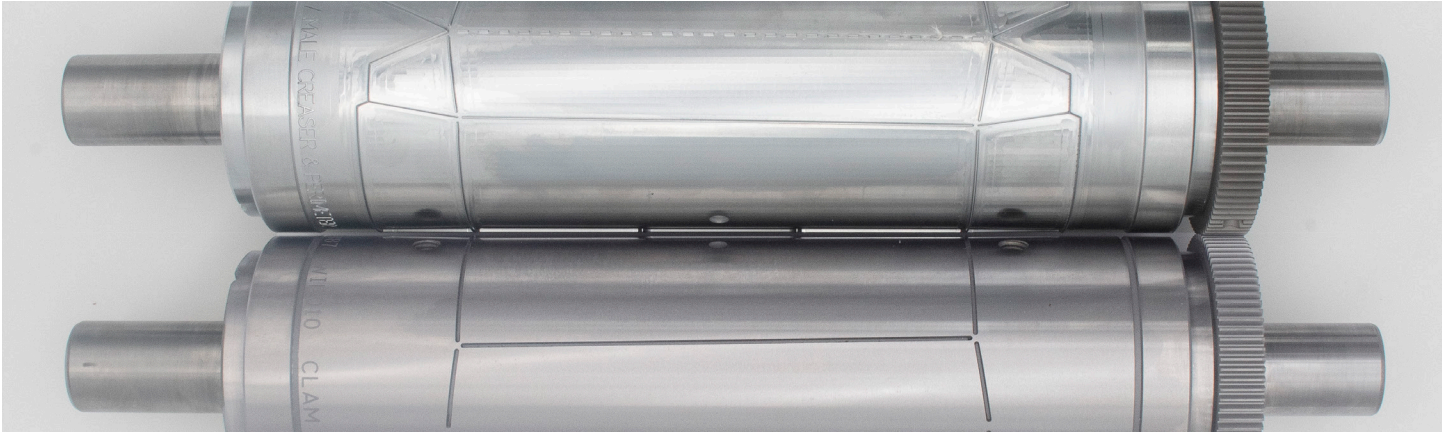


CREASING TECHNIQUES: KNOW THE DIFFERENCES



Creasing is generally used to fold a material. There are three very different types of creases (Crush, Cut, and Male-Female). Each one is used on specific materials or applications.

#1 - Crush

This crease can be used on any paper product over .010" thick. The blade is not sharp, so it deforms or crushes the material instead of cutting into it. A crush crease will usually indent the material about halfway through its thickness. For example, if the paper is .010" thick, the crush crease will be about .005" deep. Crush crease blades should never be used on parts that are going to be folded by a machine. They also should not be used on poly or synthetic material as it has too much memory and will not retain the crease.

#2 - Cut

Cut creasing is ideal for poly materials or any material that has a high degree of memory. The crease blade on this application is sharp—it scores a line halfway through the material. The scoring allows durable materials to fold more easily. A cut crease should not be used on paper because fibers will be exposed, causing a line of missing color if the area is printed.

#3 - Male/Female

Male/Female creasing can be used on any paper product. It is distinguished from crush or cut crease by the tell-tale protrusion on the opposite side. On material thinner than .010", we use an interfering set up. This is where the male blade crosses over into the female channel. On materials .010" or thicker, the male tool will only push the material into the female channel. Male/Female creases work well for any application but are a must for a product that is being folded by a machine.