

USPS Tabbing Requirements

3.11 Tabs, Tape, and Glue

Tabs on booklets must be at least 1-1/2 inches in width. The tab placement standards in 3.15 are subject to 1/4-inch variance in either direction. Tabs may be made of opaque paper, translucent paper, vinyl or plastic, and must not contain perforations. Cellophane tape may also be used as a closure. The following standards also apply:

- a. Translucent paper tabs should be made of paper with a minimum of 40-pound basis weight.
- b. Opaque paper tabs should be made of a minimum of 60-pound basis weight paper with a tear strength of at least 56 grams of force in the machine direction (MD) and 60 grams of force in the cross direction (CD).
- c. Tabs in the barcode clear zone must have a paper face meeting the standards for background reflectance and, if the barcode is not preprinted by the mailer, the standards for acceptance of water-based ink.
- d. Vinyl tabs and cellophane tape closures are not acceptable within the barcode clear zone.
- e. Tabs must be tight against the edge of the mailpiece. A maximum 1/16-inch overhang is recommended.
- f. Glue spots may be used in lieu of tabs and must be placed within 3/4 inch of the open edges (see Exhibit 201.3.11.f).

3.14 Folded Self-Mailers

[Add new 3.14.1 to read as follows:]

3.14.1 General

The standards in 3.14.2 for folded self-mailers are basic requirements.

[Rename current 3.14.1 as new 3.14.2.]

[Rename current 3.14.2 as new 3.15 and revise as follows:]

3.15 Booklets

3.15.1 Definition

Booklets must have a bound edge. Sheets that are fastened with at least two staples in the manufacturing fold (saddle stitched), perfect bound, pressed-glued, or joined together by another binding method that produces an end where pages are attached together are considered booklets. Booklets are open on three sides before sealing, similar in design to a book. In general, booklets must be uniformly thick. Large bound booklets that are folded for mailing qualify for automation and machinable prices if the final mailpiece remains nearly uniform in thickness.

3.15.3 Physical Standards for Booklets




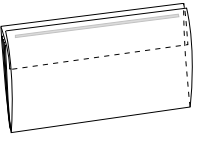
Booklets must be:

- a. Height: not more than 6 inches or less than 3.5 inches high.
- b. Length: not more than 10.5 inches or less than 5 inches long. See Exhibit 3.15.4 for some booklet designs with shorter maximum lengths.
- c. Thickness: not more than 0.25 inch or less than 0.009 inch thick.
- d. Weight: not more than 3 ounces.
- e. Aspect ratio: within 1.3 to 2.5 (see 201.3.1).

3.15.4 Booklet Design and Sealing

Booklets may be designed with the spine or final fold at the bottom or on the leading edge. See Exhibit 3.15.4 for design and sealing standards.

Exhibit 3.15.4 Booklet Design

If the spine or final fold is...	And the length is...	The cover stock must be at least...	Mailers must seal the piece with...	And place the tabs in these locations...
 <p>Spine or fold on the bottom (longer) edge</p>	<p>5" to 9" long</p> <p>Over 9", up to 10.5" long</p>	<p>50-pound</p> <p>60-pound</p>	<p>Three 1.5" non-perforated tabs</p>	<p>Two tabs on leading edge; one tab on trailing edge. Position lower leading tab 0.5 inch from the bottom edge. Position upper tabs 1 inch from the top edge.</p>
 <p>Final fold on the bottom (longer) edge, with the folded spine on the leading or trailing (shorter) edge</p>	<p>5" to 10.5" long</p>	<p>40-pound</p>	<p>Three 1.5" non-perforated tabs</p>	<p>Folded Booklet Two tabs on leading edge; one tab on trailing edge. Position lower leading tab 0.5 inch from the bottom edge. Position upper tabs 1 inch from the top edge.</p>
 <p>Spine on the leading (shorter) edge</p>	<p>5" to 9" long</p> <p>Over 9", up to 10.5" long</p>	<p>60-pound</p> <p>70-pound</p>	<p>Three 1.5" non-perforated tabs</p>	<p>Two tabs on top edge; one tab on trailing edge. Position top tabs 1 inch from left and right edge. Position trailing tab in the middle.</p>
 <p>Spine on bottom (longer) edge, non-perforated inner flap on top (upper) edge</p>	<p>5" to 9.5" long</p>	<p>80-pound</p>	<p>Continuous glue line or glue spots</p>	<p>Perfect bound or saddle stitched with a continuous glue line along flap preferred, minimum 1 inch glue spots acceptable if placed within 3/4 inch of right and left edges.</p>