



A Division of ImperialDade

## PAPER BAG GUIDE

**It's twine time:**  
**Because the right bag**  
**makes all the difference.**

What you carry is just as important as what you carry it in. Find the right paper bag(s) for your business needs by shopping with American Paper & Twine.





Not all paper bags are created equal. They range in size, purpose, and style. It's important to know the differences between various paper bags to ensure you use the right bag for your needs.

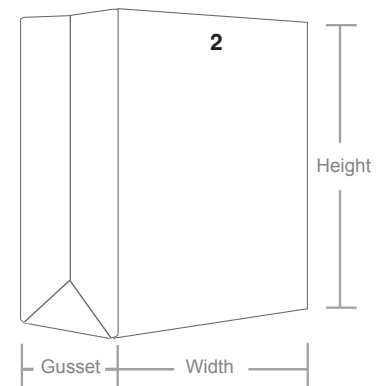
### Reading A Paper Bag Description

**Example: 2# Kraft 30# - 4 5/16" x 2 7/16" x 7 7/8"**

- The first # number is generally printed on the bag, and represents how much weight the bag is designed to hold which ranges from **1/2# to 25#**.
- The second # number shows the Basis Weight or the thickness of the paper that the bag is made from. This number is not printed on the bag but will range from **30# to 70#**.
- Dimensions are listed as **width x gusset x height**.
  - **Width:** The measurement of the face of the bag.
  - **Gusset:** A piece of material added to the bag to increase the bag's volume. It is measured by opening the gusset and measuring from edge to edge.
  - **Height:** The measurement from the bottom of the bag to the lower lip on the face of the bag.
- Paper bags can also be assessed in terms of **barrels**, typically ranging from **1/8 barrel to 1/6 barrel**. This practice is from when dry goods, such as flour and sugar, were commonly transported in barrels, with the measurement indicating the portion of a barrel's capacity that a paper bag could accommodate.

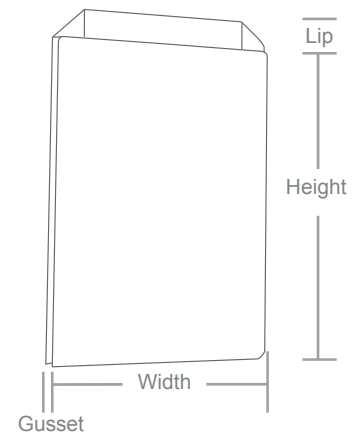
#### Flat Bottom Bag

(width x gusset x height)



#### Pinch Bottom Bag

(width x gusset\* x height)



\*Non-gusseted bags available.

### Types of Handles

#### Twisted Paper



#### Flat Paper

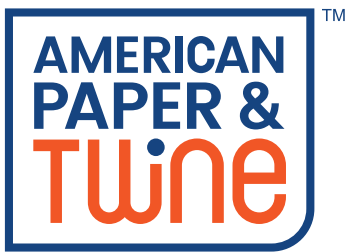


#### Rope



#### Die Cut





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# Ready for twine time?

## Types of Paper Bags

### Flat Bottom Bag



A type of paper bag also known as a block bottom or square bottom bag. It has a flat, stable base that allows the bag to stand upright on its own. It offers a professional and neat appearance, maintains its shape, making it ideal for branding and retail packaging.

#### Features

- **Stability** – Provides stability by standing upright without tipping.
  - **Enhanced Capacity** – Base, along with the gussets, provide more interior space.
  - **Handles** – Can include handles, which adds convenience for carrying.
- 



### Self-Opening Sack

Often abbreviated SOS, this type of flat bottom bag is designed to automatically open for filling without the need for manual manipulation. This makes it efficient for automated filling processes, and is commonly used for packaging bulk materials.

#### Features

- **Top Flap** – A flap that can be folded back to allow easy access for filling.
  - **Perforations/Cuts** – The flap might have perforations/cuts that weaken the material along specific lines to facilitate the automatic opening of the sack once it's exposed to the pressure of the material being filled.
  - **Cost-effective** – Compared to other types of bags, SOS paper bags are often less expensive and offer a cost-effective solution for businesses.
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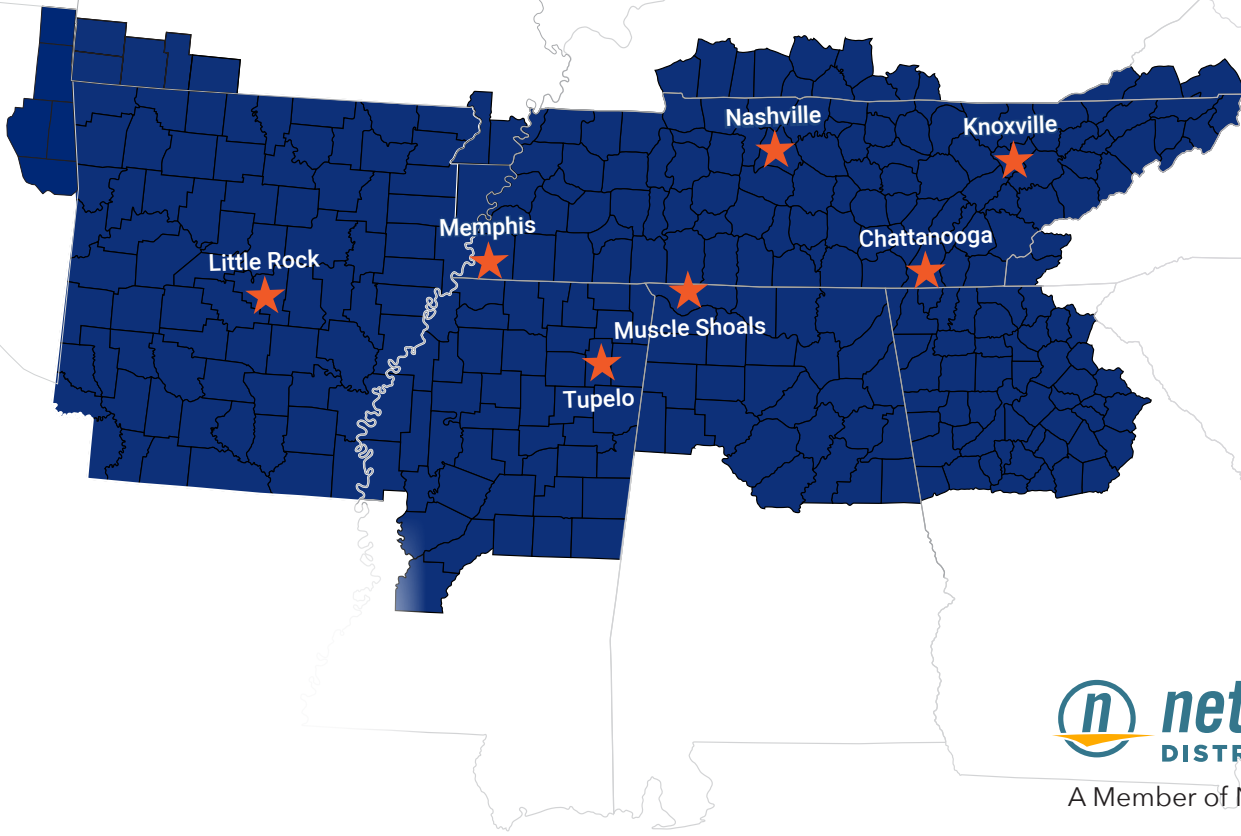


### Pinch Bottom Bag

Also known as a sewn open mouth bag or open mouth sack. The defining characteristic of a pinch bottom bag is its closure method. Pinch bottom bags are widely used in industries where bulk quantities of dry goods need to be efficiently and securely packaged.

#### Features

- **Secure Closure** – The sewn closure ensures the contents are well-contained and protected during storage and transport.
- **Added Strength** – Resistant to tearing and bursting.
- **Ease of Filling** – The open mouth makes it easy to fill through manual or automated methods.



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## ★ Locations

**Nashville:**  
7400 Cockrill Bend Blvd.  
Nashville, TN 37209  
O: 615.350.9000

**Knoxville:**  
2710 Redfern Lane  
Knoxville, TN 37931  
O: 865.330.8800

**Little Rock:**  
11611 Otter Creek S. Rd.  
Mabelvale, AR 72103  
O: 501.224.1555

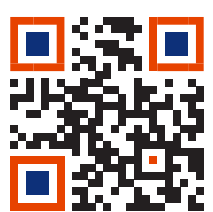
**Muscle Shoals:**  
322 Bob Riley Drive  
Muscle Shoals, AL 35661  
O: 256.383.3912

**Memphis:**  
3695 Knight Road  
Memphis, TN 38118  
O: 901.542.0090

**Chattanooga:**  
2134 Amnicola Hwy.  
Chattanooga, TN 37406  
O: 423.622.8008

**Tupelo:**  
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Verona, MS 38879  
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