

# 7. Making toilet tissue

**A**

The still wet tissue moves onto a felt or blanket and then pressed against a heated cylinder, where it is fully dried with the aid of hot air. A special blade removes the dried tissue from the cylinder to make it soft, bulky and stretchy, and it is then wound into a large reel.

**B**

The stock can now be further brightened, using selected chemical addition, checked for quality and mixed with dyes to colour the paper if required.

**C**

The stock is diluted (mixed with water) to the correct recipe for soft tissue paper. It is then squirted on to a moving mesh fabric where water drains away and leaves a thin layer of tissue. Most of the water used within the process is reused. Any excess is treated to make it suitable for discharge to a sewage works.

This card shows you how *Nouvelle Quilted* toilet tissue is made. But the stages are in the wrong order. Can you put them in the right order?

**D**

In a separate operation, on very high speed machines, the paper is embossed to give it a luxury quilted texture, then formed into individual rolls. A machine then groups them into units of 2, 4 or 9 and covers them in a plastic wrap to protect them on the way to the shops and the home.

**E**

The paper is made into bales and these delivered to the mill. Over 160,000 tonnes of good quality waste paper is used for making tissue paper at the nouvelle factory each year.

**F**

The paper is put into a machine called a pulper, which is rather like a huge food mixer. It is mixed with water and chemicals to help separate the individual fibres and release inks from those fibres. Contaminants such as staples, paper clips and plastics are removed.

Further processing removes the small amount of ink, any chalk or clay coatings that were used to make the original paper smooth and shiny, along with any fibres too short for tissue paper. This material is sent away to be used by farmers as a soil conditioner.

The cleaned pulp, now called stock, is stored in large towers ready to be made into toilet tissue.

**G**

Waste paper is collected by paper merchants all over the country. They sort it into different grades of quality. Tin cans and pieces of wood, plastic and cardboard are removed.