

Clays Specification Code Decoder

A web application for decoding print production specification codes used in the printing and publishing industry. This tool provides detailed breakdowns of multi-character codes that define product types, colour configurations, finishing options, material weights, and special processes.

Features

Code Decoding

- Real-time specification code validation and interpretation
- Support for 6-12 character codes
- Character-by-character breakdown with detailed explanations
- Error detection for invalid or unknown codes

Interactive Visualization

- Visual representation of each character in the code
- Click-to-highlight functionality for easy reference
- Position indicators showing character sequence
- Color-coded results (green for valid, red for errors)

Smart Processing

- Multi-character code recognition (e.g., "BE", "PB", "S1")
- Auto-uppercase input conversion
- Enter key support for quick decoding
- One-click field clearing on focus

Export & Share

- Copy complete specifications to clipboard
- Formatted output ready for documentation
- Visual feedback for successful operations

Responsive Design

- Mobile-friendly interface
- Bootstrap-based styling
- Consistent with modern web standards
- Professional appearance suitable for business use

Specification Code Structure

The application decodes codes with the following character positions:

Position	Description	Examples
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Position	Description	Examples
1st	Product Type	C=Cover, W=Cover with Flaps, J=Jacket, T=Tip-In, F=Cover For Case
2nd	Colours (Outside)	0=No Colour, 1-9=Various colour combinations
3rd	Colours (Inside)	0=No Colour, 1-9=Various colour combinations
4th	Type of Finish	0-9, A-Z=Different laminations, varnishes, UV treatments
5th	Surface Texture	P=Plain, G=Grained
6th	Material Weight	1-7=Different GSM weights (130-265 gsm)
7th-9th	Special Processes	F=Fluorescent, BE=Block & Emboss, etc.

Usage Examples

Basic 6-Character Codes

- C45LP1 - Cover, 4 process + 1 spot outside, 4 process inside, Gloss Spot UV, Plain, 190gsm
- W20MP2 - Cover with Flaps, 2 spot outside, no colour inside, Matt Spot UV, Plain, 220gsm
- J11GP4 - Jacket, 1 spot both sides, Grained, Plain, 150gsm

Extended Codes with Special Processes

- C45LP1F - Basic code + Fluorescent ink
- W23MP2BE - Basic code + Block & Emboss (same pass)
- T11GP4S1 - Basic code + Other Spot UV

Technical Details

Technology Stack

- **Frontend:** HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript (ES6+)
- **Styling:** Bootstrap 5.3.2, Bootstrap Icons
- **Browser Support:** Modern browsers with ES6 support
- **Dependencies:** None (all libraries loaded via CDN)

File Structure

```
|— index.html      # Main application file
|— README.md      # This documentation
|— favicon files  # Optional favicon assets
```

Browser Compatibility

- Chrome 60+
- Firefox 55+
- Safari 12+

- Edge 79+

Installation & Setup

1. Download the Files

```
# Clone or download the repository
git clone [repository-url]
cd clays-specification-decoder
```

2. Deploy to Web Server

- Upload `index.html` to your web server
- Optionally add favicon files for branding
- Access via web browser

3. Local Development

```
# Simple local server using Python
python -m http.server 8000

# Or using Node.js
npx http-server
```

4. Access the Application

- Open `http://localhost:8000` in your browser
- Or simply open `index.html` directly in a modern browser

Code Specifications Reference

Product Types (1st Character)

Code	Description
C	Cover
W	Cover with Flaps
J	Jacket
T	Tip-In
F	Cover For Case

Colour Configurations (2nd & 3rd Characters)

Code	Description
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Code	Description
0	No Colour Print
1	1 Spot Colour
2	2 Spot Colours
3	3 Spot Colours
4	4 Process Colours
5	4 Process Colours + 1 Spot Colour
6	4 Process Colours + 2 Spot Colours
7	4 Spot Colours
8	4 Process Colours + 3 Spot Colours
9	4 Process Colours + 4 Spot Colours

Material Weights (6th Character)

Code	GSM
1	220 gsm
2	220 gsm
3	260 gsm
4	150 gsm
5	135 gsm
6	130 gsm
7	220 gsm

Special Processes (7th-9th Characters)

Code	Description
F	Fluorescent
S	Spot Colour
M	Non-Conventional Metallic
K	Conventional Metallic (used with M)
B	Blocked (after print, before laminate)
E	Embossed
D	Debossed

Code	Description
C	Die-Cutting
P	Print Over Foil
L	Block Over Laminate
U	Uncoated Printing
BE	Block & Emboss (same pass)
DE	Deboss & Emboss (same pass)
BD	Block & Deboss (same pass)
PB	Print Black Over Foil
S1	Other Spot UV
S2	Pile Spot UV
S3	Glitter Spot UV
V1	Glow Varnish
H1	Holographic Lam

Contributing

To update the specification codes:

1. Modify the `specData` object in the JavaScript section
2. Add new codes following the existing pattern
3. Test with various code combinations
4. Update this documentation as needed

Support

For technical issues or specification questions:

- Check the browser console for error messages
- Verify code format (6+ characters minimum)
- Ensure all characters are valid according to the specification

License

This project is designed for internal business use in the printing and publishing industry.