

Preparing Your Freight for Transit

Proper freight packaging is important. Many shipment claims and damages arise from improper packaging. It's not just the pallet and the wrapping that protects the freight; the inner packaging material is also critical.

When you ship your goods it is important to understand that the goods must properly packaged and prepared to withstand the risks of damage necessarily incidental to transportation.

Use this guide to help you package your freight properly so it arrives intact at its destination. There are a variety of materials that can be used for this purpose. Select the one that best suits your commodity.

Bubble Wrap

Ideal to protect fragile and irregularly shaped objects. Serves as good protection against shock. Fills the voids inside the shipping container.

Edge Boards

A very effective means to stabilize the load and reduce the risk of damage to the edge of boxes. Keep the freight within the pallet dimensions.

Foam Cushioning

Performs well in situations when your freight may need protection from vibrations and shocks. For maximum effectiveness, this material may require custom formation.

Paper Honeycomb

Perfect for both inner and outer packaging. Excellent for packaging machine parts and smaller automotive related parts.

Loose Fill

Very flexible packing material. Fills the gaps around freight. Offers shock protection.

Paper Pad

Blocking, filling, and wrapping material that is perfect for irregular shaped products and fragile parts.

Corrosion Protection

Used to prevent corrosion and oxidation when transporting non-treated metals.

Bubble Wrap



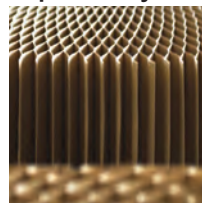
Edge Boards



Foam Cushioning



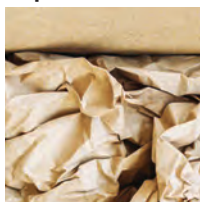
Paper Honeycomb



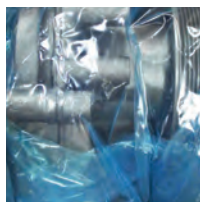
Loose Fill



Paper Pad



Corrosion Protection



Packing Your Freight on a Pallet/Skid

Heavy, bulky items should be placed on pallets. Cartons should be stacked squarely with no overhang.

To maximize carton strength, stack cartons on the pallet vertically. Secure cartons to a pallet with banding or shrink-wrap. Box flaps should always be properly sealed with packing tape.

Verify that the pallet is in good condition and will not risk damage to freight:

- Covered with solid, undamaged deck and runner boards.
- Four-way access.
- Free of protruding nails, staples, or large wood splinters.
- Dunnage (cardboard) between pallet and freight.

Cardboard Cartons

When using cardboard cartons, ensure that:

- Cartons are aligned in columns and not in an interlocked pattern. It is a common misconception that interlocking cartons increases strength, but it can actually decrease compression strength by up to 50%.
- Cartons do not overhang the pallet edge, which can reduce a carton's strength by up to 32%.
- Cartons are not stored in high humidity, which can reduce carton strength by up to 60%.

Cardboard Cartons Dos and Don'ts

- 1. Don't** use only an interlocking pattern. It puts the strongest part of a box on top of the weakest box below it, dramatically reducing its strength.
- 2. Do** use a column pattern that places the strongest points directly on top of one another. Use slip sheets between layers and/or shrink wrap for stability.
- 3. Do** use a combination pattern if the pallet is double height (no risk of double stacking) for added strength and stability.



Sealing Cartons

Use three strip "H" taping method across all seams and flaps. Tape both top and bottom seams. Rub entire tape surface to ensure contact adhesion.



Marking & Labelling Packages

- Each individual package must be legibly and durably marked with the name and address (including postal code) of shipper and consignee.
- Shipper and consignee information on the freight must match shipper and consignee information on the Bill of Lading.
- Address labels should be located in visible locations.

Wrapping & Securing to Pallet/Skid

- Tuck the lead of the wrap between the pallet and the bottom box.
- Wrap in an upward direction, overlapping each layer of wrap by at least 50%.
- Twist the wrap every other time around to increase wrap strength.
- At the top, stretch the wrap diagonally over the top corners with a three-inch overlap, then spiral back down to the bottom.



Precautionary Handling Markings

- Both pictorial and text markings should be used.
- Should be highly visible and displayed on all sides of the package.
- Symbols can be printed or adhered as a label.
- Place marking symbols within a border or on a contrasting background colour.
- Ensure all relevant HAZMAT markings are included.

