

PACKING MATERIALS

Packing materials need to cushion the product in the carton, or crate from the rigours of the journey between shipper and customer. They should also, if going to a retail customer, support the image of the product and its manufacturer. For example, a high value piece of jewellery should not be shipped in crumpled, or shredded newspaper.

Properties of Packing Materials:

The following table summarizes properties of packing materials. An appropriate general purpose packing material should be selected, unless sufficient overall

Summary Properties of Packaging Materials

Material	Density	Shock Absorption			Resiliency	Dampening ¹	Cleanliness	Corrosivity	Liquid Absorbency
		Light	Medium	Heavy					
Non-Cellular									
Cellulose wadding	Medium	Good	Fair	Poor	Fair	Good	Fair	Low	Low-High
Excelsior fill ²	Medium	Fair	Fair	Fair	Poor	Fair	Poor	High	Medium
Excelsior pads ²	Medium	Fair	Fair	Fair	Poor	Fair	Fair	Low	Medium
Fibreboard									
Corrugated inserts	Medium	Poor	Fair	Fair	Poor	Poor	Fair	Low	Medium
Single face corrugate	Medium	Poor	Fair	Fair	Poor	Fair	Fair	Low	Medium
Crumpled or shredded Newsprint	Medium	Fair	Poor	Poor	Poor	Good	Poor	High	Medium
Indented kraft (multilayered)	Medium	Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Fair	Good	Low	Medium
Macerated pads	Medium	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Low	Medium
Cellular									
Air bubble sheet	Low	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	None	None
Polyethylene foam ³	Low	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	None	None
	Medium	Poor	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Good	None	None
Polypropylene foam	Low	Good	Good	Poor	Good	Good	Good	None	None
Polystyrene, expanded molded sheets	Low	Poor	Fair	Fair	Poor	Poor	Good	None	None
Polystyrene Loose fill	Low	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	None	Low
Flexible Polyurethane foam ⁴	Low	Good	Fair	Poor	Good	Good	Good	None	None
Foam-in-place polyurethane ⁴	Low								
	Medium	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Low	Low

Cellular: Materials with air pockets, or voids as part of their structure.

Non-Cellular: Solid materials that may entrain air or voids through fabrication.

1. Relates to the ability of the material to reduce the impact of vibration on the product.
2. Fine woven strips of wood.
3. Available with anti-static and/or fire retardant properties.
4. Specification can be varied to meet needs.