



Shipping Platform Standards

For Suppliers to Bunnings

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1. Introduction

As part of Bunnings' commitment to building the best, we are focused on driving efficiencies across our supply chain with improved supplier collaboration and proven standards. With this in mind, these guidelines provide our international suppliers the minimum standards to palletise goods correctly for optimising the shipment of products without delay and for the safety of all involved.

2. Pallet Guidelines

Suppliers must meet the specified guidelines when transporting products to Bunnings Distribution Centres. Suppliers are ultimately responsible for ensuring acceptable pallets are used for palletising products and meet the minimum standards for size and construction.

- Total pallet weight, including product, must not exceed 800kg.
- If when placed on pallets the products cause an overhang, the overhang should not exceed 25mm on any of the 4 sides.

Pallets should not exceed a width or depth of 1016mm, where possible.

Pallets must meet or exceed the following minimum requirements:

- Pallet design: flush, partial 4-way, non-reversible
- Pallet must be constructed in the options as described in Section 4 (Pallet Options)
- Top and bottom boards must be a minimum of 16mm thick
- Top boards must have a maximum spacing of 83mm (38mm for Heavy Products*)
- Bottom lead deck boards a minimum of 140mm wide
- Bottom deck boards a minimum of 89mm wide (140mm wide for Heavy Products*)
- No missing or broken top or bottom boards
- Stringers must be a minimum of 38mm x 89mm high
- There must be no protruding nail heads or points

* Heavy products are defined as; concrete bagged goods, ceramic and stone tile, brick, block, pavers, edging and stone (including bagged stone), solid timber doors and countertops.

All pallets are to be solid enough to last the trip to the required destination plus return if required.

Certain types of pallets such as wood need to be treated and marked with ISPM 15 compliant stamps (see Australian Quarantine in Section 7).

All pallets must also meet the Australian Standard for Flat Pallets.

3. Pallet Options

This section provides a general description of the types of pallets available.

The Bunnings preferred option is to slip sheet goods however discretion is advised in choosing the most suitable type of pallet. This is according to the nature of the product and pallet capabilities.

Different pallet types for loading containers ready for transport include the following;

1. Slip sheeting
2. Skid pallets
3. Plastic pallets
4. Cardboard pallets

3.1. Slip Sheeting

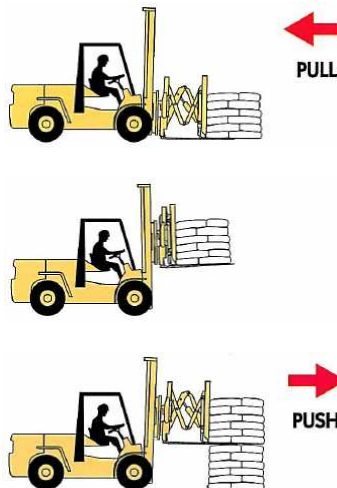
Slip sheets are durable sheets of material designed to carry an even load of goods. It can be made of plastic or cardboard.



Example of slip sheet

If when placed on slip sheets the products cause an overhang, the overhang should not exceed 50mm on any of the 4 sides.

Slip sheets have an extended pull tab on 1, 2, 3, or all 4 sides to allow for loading and unloading. A forklift truck must have a push-pull attachment to move the goods. The attachment grabs a tab and drags the load onto the forklift truck. The push-pull attachment has ground level forks that carry the weight of the goods. To unload, the forklift truck pushes the entire load off including the slip sheet and departs. This process is illustrated in the pictures below.



Loading and unloading slip sheet pallets

Advantages

- Lighter weight
- Maximise cubic capacity in container
- Fumigation is not required
- Saves warehouse space
- Reduces damage to product caused by nails and splinters associated with wooden pallets
- Reusable and recyclable

Disadvantages

- Requires a special push-pull attachment on forklift truck
- May not handle a mix load of different shapes



Example of plastic buckets on slip sheet with a top sheet

3.2. Skid Pallet

Skid pallets should be made of pine and be a 4-way entry pallet (a pallet with fork access on all four sides).

Wood pallets need to be treated and marked with ISPM 15 compliant stamps (see Australian Quarantine in Section 7).



Example of skid pallet

Dimensions

See Pallet Guidelines in Section 2.

Advantages

- Can be easily repaired if damaged
- Recyclable

Disadvantages

- Heavier weight
- Loss of cubic space due to height of pallet
- Requires fumigation
- Porous, susceptible to weathering, rot and mould
- Can be hard to keep clean
- May contain splinters and nails which may cause damage to goods



Examples of plastic tables on skid pallets

3.3. *Plastic Pallet*

Plastic pallets should be a 4-way entry pallet. The preferred plastic pallet has a feet base and should be a solid base.



Example of plastic pallet

The height of plastic pallets is the same as those described in Pallet Guidelines (see Section 2).

If when placed on pallets the products cause an overhang, the overhang should not exceed 25mm on any of the 4 sides.

Advantages

- Lighter weight
- High strength to weight ratio
- Often stackable
- Cleanable, easy to sanitise
- Reusable and recyclable
- Non-porous, fumigation is not required
- Durable, longer service life span
- Resistant to weathering, rot, chemicals and corrosion
- Free of nails, splinters and rust

Disadvantages

- Cannot be easily repaired
- Price



Examples of plastic pallets with feet base

3.4. *Cardboard Pallet*

A cardboard pallet is made of corrugated cardboard sheets bonded with strong paper. They should be a 4-way entry pallet (a pallet with fork access on all four sides) with corner protectors for extra stability.



Example of cardboard pallet with corner protectors

Dimensions

The dimension and height of cardboard pallets is the same as those described in Pallet Guidelines (see Section 2) however accepted specifications include the following:

Length x Width: 1200mm x 1000mm

If when placed on the pallet the products cause an overhang, the overhang should not exceed 25mm on any of the 4 sides.

Advantages

- Lighter weight
- High strength to weight ratio
- Recyclable, easy disposal
- Fumigation is not required
- Price

Disadvantages

- Not as durable as other types of pallets



Example of ceramic pots in cardboard uprights

4. Shrink-wrap / Banding Standards

All palletised products must be shrink-wrapped and/or banded to the pallet in such a way as to ensure adequate load containment during the shipping and handling process. Shrink-wrap prevents damage to the goods and both shrink wrap and bands prevent the goods from moving during transit.

Shrink-wrap specifications must meet the following:

- If using pre-stretched film it must be 10UM
- If using non pre-stretched film it must be 23UM
- It must be applied with 50% overlap
- It must be applied mid-way down over the pallet and cover all 4 corners of the pallet
- It must be applied with 2 full wraps at the bottom (to the pallet) and 2 full wraps at the top of the load

Banding may be used as alternative or in addition to shrink-wrap.

Banding specifications must meet the following:

- A minimum of 2 bands must be used to secure product to the pallet. At least 3 bands are required if product is 4.9m long or longer
- Metal strapping is not accepted

5. Extra Additions

Palletising products can also include the following additions:

Cardboard Top Sheets to enable pallets on top of each other to slide easily and prevent sticking. It also creates a stable base for the top pallet.

Cardboard Uprights to prevent damage to the goods.

Examples are shown in the previous pictures.

6. Maximum Cargo Weight

Containers must meet the following weight specifications:

Container Type	Cargo Weight
20' Dry Cargo Container	21,000kg including the container
40' Dry Cargo Container	26,000kg including the container
40HQ' Dry Cargo Container	26,000kg including the container

7. Container Internal Dimensions

Internal Specifications	20' Dry Cargo Container	40' Dry Cargo Container	40HQ' Dry Cargo Container
Length	5.90m (19.35 ft)	12.01m (39.39 ft)	12.01m (39.39 ft)
Width	2.35m (7.71 ft)	2.35m (7.71 ft)	2.35m (7.71 ft)
Height	2.38m (7.80 ft)	2.38m (7.80 ft)	2.69m (8.82 ft)

8. Container Fill Requirements

Container fill must also meet the following requirements:

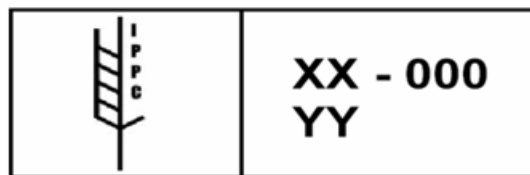
- Pallet sizes should ideally be the same with a single stack no greater than 1.8m in height
- For double stacks, the pallets should be of equal height to maximise cube capacity
- No loose stock is to be placed on top of pallets, all stock is to be secured to pallets to ensure maximum capacity of containers
- Pack the container in a manner to avoid any possibility of movement during transit
- Ensure to pack containers so that the maximum cube or weight capacity is used where possible

9. Australian Quarantine

Australian Quarantine Inspection Service (AQIS) require certain types of pallets such as wood to be treated and marked with ISPM 15 compliant stamps.

ISPM 15 is the phytosanitary measure taken to reduce the introduction and/or spread of quarantine pests associated with timber packing and dunnage.

The ISPM 15 compliant stamp or mark is shown below.



ISPM 15 mark

The ISPM 15 mark consists of:

- The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) symbol
- The ISO two letter country code 'XX' eg. AU for Australia followed by a unique number '000' assigned by the National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) to the producer of the timber packing. This component of the mark enables the producer of the timber packing or dunnage to be identified.
 - 'YY' indicates the ISPM 15 approved treatment applied to the timber packing material or dunnage where;
 - HT: heats treatment
 - MB: methyl bromide fumigation
 - DB: debarking

Suppliers must check AQIS rulings on whether pallets need to be fumigated along with proof of treatment. For more information refer to www.daffa.gov.au/aqis

10. Glossary of Terms

AQIS	Australian Quarantine Inspection Service
IPPC	International Plant Protection Convention
ISPM 15	An International Phytosanitary Measure developed by the IPPC that directly addresses the need to treat wood materials of a thickness greater than 6mm, used to ship products between countries. It affects all wood packaging material (pallets, crates, dunnages, etc) requiring that they be treated with heat or fumigated with methyl bromide and marked, often branded with a seal of compliance.
NPPO	National Plant Protection Organisation
Pallet	A portable platform that supports goods in a stable fashion, designed to be easily moved by a forklift for transport or storage.