

# Pallet Standards

## Minimum Grade A Stringer Pallet Standards

- **Full pallet 48" +/- .25 x 40" +/- .25"**  
Partial four-way entry.
- **Half pallet 48" +/- .25 x 20" +/- .25"**  
For approved programs only.
- **Quarter Pallet 24" +/- .25 x 20" +/- .25"**  
For approved programs only.
- Condition of the pallet is **required** to meet or exceed Grade A, 4-way, flush and non-reversible specifications.
- Pallets are **required** to accommodate a standard pallet jack and/or forklift equipment with adequate top board spacing so forklift blades will not impact freight.
- Maximum spacing between each deck board is 4".
- Must be of sound material, free of knots.
- Pallets are **required** to have a minimum of 7 top boards and 5 bottom boards, (board minimum of 5/8" thick x 3.5" W) +/- 1/8" tolerance to board thickness and widths shown.
- Pallets are **required** to have 3 stringers, (board minimum of 1.25" W x 3.5" H). +/- 1/8" tolerance to board thickness and widths shown.
- Oversized pallets are allowed only if the packaging size does not fit onto a standard 48" x 40" pallet without overhang. Oversized pallets must meet all other pallet requirements.

**If only 1 dimension of your product is too large to fit on the standard 48" x 40" pallet footprint, you are allowed to grow the 40" width of the pallet to fit your product. The 48" standard pallet length, and all other pallet quality standards, are required to be maintained.**

**Odd sized pallets are NOT ALLOWED when shipping through the Grocery Network. Product must ship on a standard 48" x 40" full pallet.**

## Pallet Standards

For domestic orders, the expected method of delivery into a Walmart DC is on a pallet. For direct import orders, refer to Direct Import Section of these standards. Product may be stored in a standard rack on a Suppliers pallet for an extended period of time. Pallets are **required** to support the weight of the product shipped on them.

- Grade A pallet maximum loaded weight is 2,100 lbs.
- Block pallet maximum loaded weight is 2,800 lbs.
- Staple stock "PO Type 20 items" are **required** to be palletized. All other PO Type items are preferred to be palletized.
- Pallets contaminated with items not shipped on that pallet (Cross-contamination) or contaminated prior to being loaded for shipment are **NOT ALLOWED**.
- **Fees or charge-backs may be assessed if pallets fail to meet Walmart's pallet requirements.**

## Alternative Pallet Materials

Walmart supports the use of alternative pallet materials such as plastic, metal, etc. Approval may require proof of structural capability and/or fire rating. All standard pallets must be edge rackable. Corrugated pallets are not acceptable to ship into the Walmart DCs.

**The use of non-standard size or alternative material pallets must be approved by the Walmart Inbound Quality Senior Manager via [logpkg@wal-mart.com](mailto:logpkg@wal-mart.com).**

## Wood Packaging Materials (WPM)

Global standards for Wood Packaging Material (WPM) address the proper treatment requirements for WPM shipped into Walmart. This document can be found on Walmart Retail Link by following the path below. Walmart supports the ISPM 15 wood packaging material requirements. All regulated wood packaging material shipped into Walmart must be properly treated by heat treatment or methyl bromide fumigation.

2,4,6 tribromophenol (TBP) is banned in the United States, Europe, and Canada. TBP is not a registered pesticide with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Therefore, it is not legal for sale or use in the United States. TBP is not a recognized wood preservative by the American Wood Protection Association (AWPA).

[Retail Link > Docs > W > Wood Packaging Material Requirements](#)



Full pallet (48" x 40")



Half pallet (48" x 20")  
(For approved programs only)



Quarter pallet (24" x 20")  
(For approved programs only)

# Pallet Standards, cont...

## Stringer Wood Pallets must meet the following conditions:

- Unsecured or broken deck boards across the width of the pallet are **NOT ALLOWED**
- Missing wood from leading edge boards greater than 1.5" diameter are **NOT ALLOWED**
- Pallets with exposed nails outside the perimeter of the pallet are **NOT ALLOWED**
- Raised nails greater than 1/8" on any surface of the pallet are **NOT ALLOWED**
- Partial footings are **NOT ALLOWED**. Partial footings occur when 1/4 of the stringer board width or length that connects it to a bottom board have been removed or when securing nail shanks are exposed in the stringer.
- Tapered breaks with a depth of 1" along a 10" or greater run are **NOT ALLOWED** (If at the 10" distance, the depth is less than 1", the pallet is good. The pallet is unacceptable if the 1" depth runs the entire length of the board.)
- Stringers are preferred to be solid, unbroken, and without cracks visible on three sides longer than a 1" run. Weathering cracks that are not continuous and not visible from three sides are acceptable.
- Double stringers, patched boards or metal repair plates are **NOT ALLOWED**.
- Pallets are not required to be bleached white but should be clean and odor free.
- Clean pallets are free of debris and stains, but discoloration due to aging is acceptable.
- Stapling, gluing, or taping PDQ displays or case layers to the pallet is **NOT ALLOWED**.
- Pallet restraining devices that penetrate trailer flooring are **NOT ALLOWED**.
- Pallets with broken, split wood and/or exposed nails are **NOT ALLOWED**. Missing or broken boards are **NOT ALLOWED**. Exposed splinters greater than 3" in length are **NOT ALLOWED**.



Cracks on the top or bottom boards greater than 1/8" W x 15" L are **NOT ALLOWED**



Raised nails great than 1/8" are **NOT ALLOWED**



Double stringers, patched boards or metal repair plates are **NOT ALLOWED**



Stapling or gluing is **NOT ALLOWED**



Pallet restraining devices that penetrate trailer flooring are **NOT ALLOWED**

# Pallet Standards, cont...

## Minimum Unbranded, 9 Block Pallet Standards

- Full pallet 48" +/- .25" x 40" +/- .25" - Full four-way entry
- Hard and soft wood lumber is **required**. Plywood is **NOT ALLOWED**.
- Full perimeter bottom base is **required**.
- Must be of sound material, free of knots

### Top Deck:

- 2 lead boards are **required** (minimum 40" +/- .25" L x 5.5" +/- .5" W x .5" D)
- 5 interior boards are **required** (minimum 40" +/- .25" L x 3.5" +/- .5" W x .5" D)

### Top Stringer board:

- 3 boards are **required** (minimum 40" +/- .25" L x 3.5" +/- .5" W x 1.5" D)

### Bottom Perimeter deck:

- 2 lead boards are **required** (minimum 40" +/- .25" L x 5.5" +/- .5" W x .688" D)
- 3 interior boards are **required** (minimum 37" +/- .25" L x 3.5" +/- .5" W x .688" D)

### Blocks:

- 3 center blocks are **required** (minimum 3.5" +/- .25" L x 3.5" +/- .25" W x 3.5" +/- .25" H)
- 6 outer blocks are **required** (minimum 7.5" +/- .25" L x 3.5" +/- .25" W x 3.5" +/- .25" H)

## Pallet Poolers

Walmart Suppliers have the option of leasing a pooled pallet from any number of service providers, or purchasing a one-way white wood pallet. Walmart does not endorse or recommend any specific pallet manufacturer or pooling service. All pallets must meet or exceed the grade-A specifications.

### Approved pallet poolers:

[www.chep.com](http://www.chep.com) | [www.pecopallet.com](http://www.pecopallet.com) | [www.rm2.com](http://www.rm2.com) | [www.igps.net](http://www.igps.net)



9 Block Pallet



CHEP



PECO



RM2

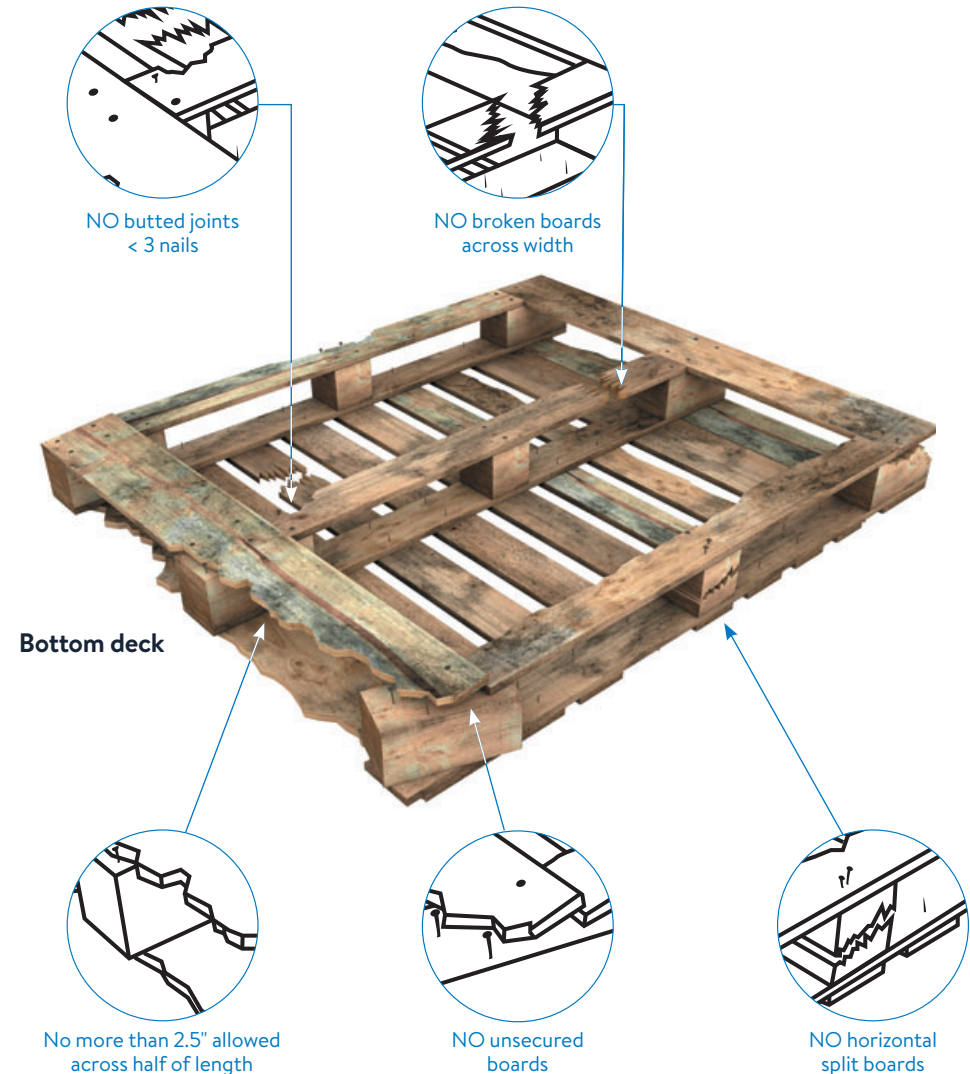
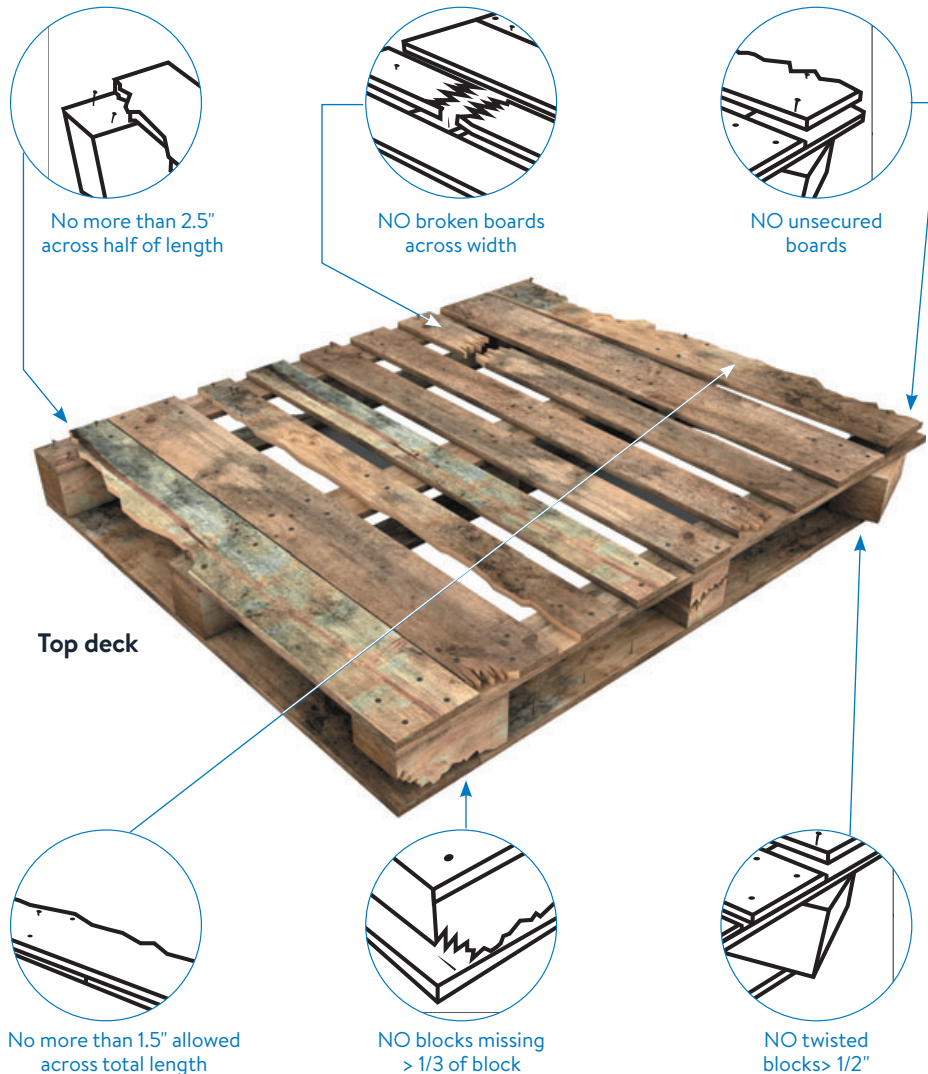


iGPS

# Pallet Standards, cont...

## Block Wood Pallets Must Meet the Following Conditions:

- Pallets with exposed nails outside the perimeter are **NOT ALLOWED**.
- Raised nails greater than 1/8" on any surface of the pallet are **NOT ALLOWED**.
- Unsecured or broken deck boards across the width are **NOT ALLOWED**.
- Pallets missing greater than 1/3 of their blocks are **NOT ALLOWED**.
- Unsecured or broken deck boards across the width are **NOT ALLOWED**.



# Produce Shipments

## Inbound pallet loads for produce and reusable plastic containers (RPCs)

- Stack RPCs by layer on a 48" x 40" Grade A pallet.
- Ensure all RPCs interlock for a more secure pallet.
- Cross-stack when applicable for greater pallet stability.
- Cases are **required** to withstand clamping equipment.
- Secure pallet using corner boards, plastic bands, and stretch wrap. Product that requires unrestricted airflow is **required** to be secured to the pallet with ventilated stretch wrap.
- Metal bands and clip seals are **NOT ALLOWED**.

- Straps are **required** to run horizontally and be placed at the base, middle, and top of the pallet.
- Shipments may be refused or rejected if not properly secured on the pallet. Less than layer case quantities are **required** to be secured to the pallet.
- Produce pallets should be trailer loaded in a pinwheel pattern to reduce trailer air space and prevent shifting.
- Single pallet positions should be loaded to one side of the trailer and secured with airbags or load locks.
- Netting and twine for pallet containment is **NOT ALLOWED**.

## Fiber Corner Boards

In order to increase recyclability, we strongly encourage the use of corner boards made of 100% plastic or 100% fiber. Mixed material corner boards such as composite or those with a metal or plastic interior and fiber exterior cannot be recycled from our DCs and stores.

- Can be unwrapped (natural fiber) or wrapped (white)
- Prefer no logos or other colors
- Metal or composite corner boards are **NOT ALLOWED**
- Can be polycoate

Suppliers have the responsibility to ensure length, width and thickness of corner board is designed to properly protect and support the product.



**CORRECT**  
Uses corner boards,  
plastic bands, and  
stretch wrap



**INCORRECT**  
Not secured  
to the pallet

# Stretch Wrap

## Stretch Wrapping

Merchandise placed on pallets or slip sheet is **required** to be stretch wrapped to contain and prevent damage during shipping. Stretch wrap specifications are based on the containment force requirements outlined below.

- When stretch wrap equipment is unavailable, stretch wrap must be top quality and a minimum of 80 gauge, 15" wrap.
- Wrap from the bottom of the pallet upwards in an overlapping pattern.
- Ensure the bottom layer is double wrapped. Double-wrap while overlapping every 2-4 inches. Covering pallet fork entry holes with stretch wrap is **NOT ALLOWED**.
- Pallet labels must be properly secured between layers of stretch wrap.
- Colored stretch wrap is **NOT ALLOWED**. Exceptions may be given to support special events. Black corrugated or black stretch wrap is **NOT ALLOWED**.
- Netting and twine for pallet containment is **NOT ALLOWED**.
- Using more than 10 layers of stretch wrap is **NOT ALLOWED**.
- Stretch wrap tails are **NOT ALLOWED**. The end of the stretch wrap is **required** to be pressed firmly against the unit load.
- Ventilated stretch wrap is allowed as needed for product.

## Containment Force

- Containment force is the amount of force the wrap exerts on a load in order to hold it together for the duration of the shipping process.
- Containment force is the only consistent measurement that can be taken regardless of the gauge of wrap, manufacturer of wrap, or wrapping method (type of equipment used vs. hand application).
- This is the most important measurement to monitor when down-gauging, or when converting to or qualifying new wraps. The containment force is **required** to be held to a consistent number, appropriate for the load, in order to ensure that the product is delivered to its destination in good condition.



# Trailer Loading

## PO Trailer Separation

All pallets that belong to the same PO must be kept together throughout the trailer. Always load staple stock purchase orders "PO Type 20 items" in the nose of the trailer and Distribution Assembly (DA) purchase orders "PO Type 33 items" on the tail of the trailer. Overweight axle concerns may prevent some pallets from being separated by PO. It is the responsibility of the Supplier to ensure that trailer is loaded in compliance with DOT regulations.

**All PO types are required to be separated on the trailer with truckload shipments. PO types cannot be mixed within the trailer or on the same pallet.**

PO pallet trailer configuration (colors represent different POs)



**CORRECT**  
Pallets of the same PO/items are kept together in the trailer



**INCORRECT**  
Pallets of the same PO/items are mixed throughout the trailer

## Item Trailer Separation

All pallets of the same item, PO, and PO Type are **required** to be kept together throughout the trailer. Overweight axle concerns may prevent some pallets from being separated by item. It is the responsibility of the Supplier to ensure that trailer is loaded in compliance with DOT regulations.

**PO separation is 1st priority, item separation is 2nd priority.**

**DSV suppliers see the DSV section for specific BOL requirements for your shipments**

Item pallet trailer configuration (colors represent different POs)



**CORRECT**  
Pallets of the same PO/items are kept together in the trailer



**INCORRECT**  
Pallets of the same PO/items are mixed throughout the trailer

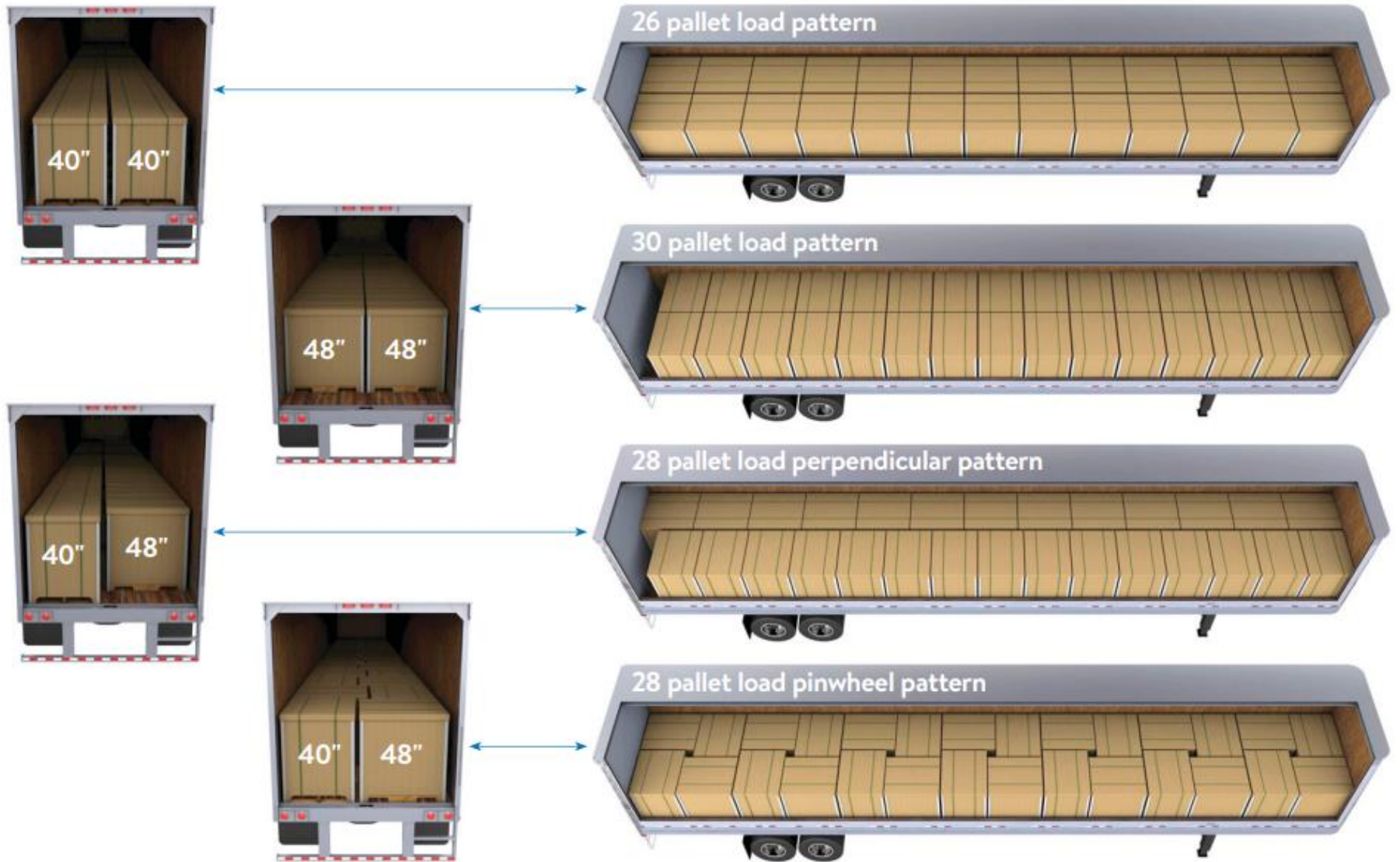
# Trailer Measurements

53 ft. swing door dry van 636" L x 102" W x 110" H	53 ft. rollup door dry van 636" L x 102" W x 108" H	48 ft. rollup door 576" L x 99" W x 108" H	53 ft. swing door reefer 636" L x 102" W x 110" H (up to 3 reefer units)	53 ft. rollup door reefer 636" L x 102" W x 108" H (up to 3 reefer units)
Max loadable internal space 630" L x 96" W x 104" H	Max loadable internal space 626" L x 96" W x 98" H	Max loadable internal space 566" L x 93" W x 98" H	Max loadable internal space 628" L x 96" W x 104" H	Max loadable internal space 624" L x 96" W x 98" H
Floor stacked - <b>3,640 cubes</b>	Floor stacked - <b>3,408 cubes</b>	Floor stacked - <b>2,985 cubes</b>	Floor stacked - <b>3,608 cubes</b>	Floor stacked - <b>3,377 cubes</b>
<b>Straight</b>	<b>Straight</b>	<b>Straight</b>	<b>Straight</b>	<b>Straight</b>
Single stacked - <b>26 pallets</b> Double stacked - <b>52 pallets</b>	Single stacked - <b>26 pallets</b> Double stacked - <b>46 pallets</b>	Single stacked - <b>22 pallets</b> Double stacked - <b>38 pallets</b>	Single stacked - <b>26 pallets</b> Double Stacked - <b>49 pallets</b>	Single stacked - <b>26 pallets</b> Double Stacked - <b>43 pallets</b>
<b>Pinwheel</b>	<b>Pinwheel</b>	<b>Pinwheel</b>	<b>Pinwheel</b>	<b>Pinwheel</b>
Single stacked - <b>28 pallets</b> Double stacked - <b>56 pallets</b>	Single stacked - <b>28 pallets</b> Double stacked - <b>50 pallets</b>	Single stacked - <b>24 pallets</b> Double stacked - <b>42 pallets</b>	Single stacked - <b>28 pallets</b> Double stacked - <b>53 pallets</b>	Single stacked - <b>28 pallets</b> Double stacked - <b>47 pallets</b>
<b>48" wide load</b>	<b>48" wide load</b>	<b>48" wide load</b>		
Single stacked - <b>30 pallets</b> Double stacked - <b>60 pallets</b>	Single stacked - <b>30 pallets</b> Double stacked - <b>54 pallets</b>	Single stacked - <b>26 pallets</b> Double stacked - <b>46 pallets</b>		
				
<b>96" maximum height</b>	<b>96" maximum height</b>	<b>96" maximum height</b>	<b>96" maximum height</b>	<b>96" maximum height</b>



# Trailer Load Patterns

Use one of the suggested loading patterns to reduce air space and freight damage.



# \*CIDER



## Case Quality

### Adhesives

Corrugated box flaps are **required** to remain secure with an adhesive that can withstand automated/conveyable handling, compression, humidity, and a range of temperatures.

### Sealing and Opening Cases

Case flaps are **required** to be securely sealed using adequate glue or tape. Use water resistant tape for cold/wet perishable and freezer items. For heavy merchandise, use tape with reinforcing fibers along all seams.

- Avoid large gaps between case flaps. Gap flaps larger than 1" are **NOT ALLOWED** on any side of the case.



**Paper sealing tape**  
Full length of all outer seams securely sealed with strips not less than 2" (50mm) wide.



**Reinforced tape**  
Full length of all outer seams securely sealed with strips not less than 2" (50mm) wide.



**Pressure-sensitive tape**  
Full length of all outer seams securely sealed with strips not less than 2" (50mm) wide. Tape must not be less than 2 mils thick.

### Vibration and Abrasion

Because containers will ride several miles of rollers and belts on the conveyor system, quality packaging is required. This is particularly important for:

- Heavy merchandise with relatively small footprints that concentrate pressure on a very small area of the container.
- Containers using shrink-wrap or stretch wrap for containment.
- Items packaged in glass containers.

### Container Surface

All cases and packaging surfaces are **required** to be flat and strong enough to support their weight and the weight of other cases placed on top without distortion, deflection or bending.

**Avoid placing products that taper towards the top in trays.** This creates an uneven surface for stacking. An example is a wide bottle with a narrow neck.

- Bottom of cases are **required** to have a flat and smooth surface.
- Bulging in cases due to over-packed contents is **NOT ALLOWED**.
- Cases are **required** to be properly sized to contain the product.



**ACCEPTABLE**  
Flat, smooth surfaces



**NOT ACCEPTABLE**  
Bulging, uneven surfaces