



Corrugated Terms and Definitions

Box Blank: A flat sheet of corrugated board that has been cut, scored, and slotted, but not yet glued together.

Box Manufacturer's Certificate (BMC): In the U.S., a statement printed in a round or rectangular design on a corrugated box flap that certifies the box conforms to all applicable standards, and identifies its manufacturer. Sometimes referred to as a class stamp or cert stamp.

Bundle: A small group of boxes grouped together for shipment, usually with plastic banding.

Corrugated Board, Corrugated Fiberboard: Corrugated board is comprised of one or more layer of wavy corrugated medium (fluting) and one or more layer of flat corrugated linerboard.

Die-Cut: A box that is stamped out from a steel rule die, as opposed to being produced on a flexo folder gluer. Die-cut boxes provide greater design options and tighter size tolerances.

Dimensions: For a regular slotted containers (RSC), box dimensions are expressed as length x width x height, always using inside dimensions.

Double Wall: A corrugated board construction where two layers of medium are glued between three layers of flat linerboard facing.

Edge Crush Test – ECT: The Edge Crush Test is a standard industry measure of the stacking strength of corrugated board.

Flexo Folder Gluer: A machine, usually capable of running at high speed that prints, folds, cuts, and glues sheets of corrugated board, converting them into shipping boxes.

Flute: The wavy layer of corrugated medium that is glued between the flat inner and outer sheets of linerboard to create corrugated board. Fluting generally runs parallel to the height of a shipping box. The most common flute sizes for boxes –

B – 45-52 flutes per foot, 1/8” thick

C - 39-43 flutes per foot, 5/32” thick

E – 92-98 flutes per foot, 1/16” thick

F – 128 flutes per foot, 1/32” thick

Full Overlap Container – FOL: A corrugated box style in which the lengthwise flaps extend to each end of the box. The extra linerboard at the top and bottom of the FOL gives it greater stacking strength than an RSC.

Joint: In manufacturing, the opposite edges of the blank glued, stapled, wire stitched, or taped together to form a box.

Linerboard: The flat sheets of paper that comprise the outer surfaces of a sheet of corrugated board.

Medium: The paperboard used to make the fluted layer of of corrugated board.

Mullen Test: The Mullen Test is a standard industry measure of the bursting strength of corrugated board.

Regular Slotted Container – RSC: A corrugated box style in which the lengthwise flaps meet in the center. Because of its versatility and low cost to manufacture, the RSC is the most popular style for general purpose shipping boxes.

Single Wall: A corrugated board construction where one layer of corrugated medium is glued between two layers of flat linerboard facing.

Sheet Plant: A box manufacturer that converts boxes from corrugated sheets.

Slit Score: Shallow knife cuts made in a box blank to allow its flaps and sides to be folded into a shipping box.

Unit: A large group of bundled or unbundled boxes, banded and/or stretch filmed together for shipment.