

How to Choose the Best Board Strength and Board Type for your Packaging

Board Strength

In some of our box sizes, you'll find you need to choose your *board strength*. Board strength refers to the Edge Crush Test (ECT). This is a true performance test and is directly related to the stacking strength of a carton. It is usually listed as an ECT value. If you are shipping a product that weighs between 11-18Kgs, a 32 ECT **single-wall carton should be sufficient**, in most cases. You will need to use 44 ECT for anything over 18-43Kgs **double-wall carton**

Board Type

There will also be times you will be asked to choose your *board type* (especially when entering a custom size). Corrugated board is comprised of three board layers; two linerboards and a middle sheet that is in a wave-shaped pattern known as **flutes**. These flutes give strength and structure to boxes, and also serve as a protector, insulator and cushioning device. Each flute size has a useful function, from shipping strength to reducing storage space and improved printability.

How do you know which flute size to choose?

E-flute — Lighter

Our most popular flute size is also the smallest flute we offer. E-flute has a relatively flat surface, which makes it ideal for high quality printing. This super thin profile reduces outer box dimensions and can help save on storage space. It also provides the greatest crush resistance making it a good choice for die cutting.


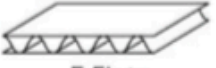



B-flute — Middle-weight

B-flute is our second most used flute, being a good alternative to E-flute when wanting to support heavier items. This type of flute still provides a rigid, flat surface for printing but also more rigidity than it's bulkier cousin C-flute. You'll often see this type of material in retail store displays.

C-flute — Heavier

This guy is most commonly used for shippers. It's the most widely used! The flutes are taller here, giving C-flute somewhat better cushioning properties than B-flute. You are going to be able to pack heavier products with this board due to it's crushing resistance and stacking strength.

Our team will help you to determine the right type of board strength and type for your corrugated cardboard needs. Talk to us today and tell us about your requirements and we'll take care of the rest.

Board Styles	Flute Types	
 <p data-bbox="400 210 531 241">Singleface</p>	 <p data-bbox="692 338 772 369">E Flute</p>  <p data-bbox="703 490 783 521">C Flute</p>  <p data-bbox="692 629 772 660">B Flute</p>	<p data-bbox="874 125 1126 237"><i>Single Face</i> consists of one liner adhered to one corrugated medium and is generally used as wrapping material, padding or for interior packaging</p> <p data-bbox="874 264 1126 465"><i>Single Wall</i> - Single Wall board consists of corrugated medium adhered to both an inside and an outside liner. The outside liner is generally smoother than the inside liner, which is more rippled. Commonly used to convert into boxes or other packaging components.</p>
 <p data-bbox="395 898 536 929">Double Wall</p>		<p data-bbox="874 685 1126 1039"><i>Double Wall</i> - Double Wall consists of three liners with two corrugated mediums adhered between them. As in single wall, the outside liner is smoother than the inside liner. Also, the outside corrugated medium is more compact than the inside corrugated medium. Double wall can be ordered using a combination of C/B flute or E/B flute. Double Wall is used for packaging heavy items that may require increased protection and box rigidity.</p>