



**Aussie
Crates**

The Timber Packaging Professionals

Package Painlessly: *A How To Guide from the Aussie Crates Experts*

It can be hard to know where to start when packaging and transporting your goods. Follow these guidelines to guarantee the safe and secure delivery of your items and take the stress out of the packaging.

Packaging Best Practices

Here are a few tips to keep in mind throughout the process of packaging:



Take whatever steps necessary to minimise the risk for everyone involved in packing and transporting your goods. This may include your employees, the packaging staff, freight providers and the public.



Before your items are ready to transport, they should tick the following boxes:

- Can be lifted on and off vehicles
- Your packaging method and materials minimise the risk of damaging your goods
- Your packaging methods and materials minimise the risk of damage to other items being transported
- The packaging can withstand multiple handling movements
- The packaging can withstand transport of long distances and rough terrain.





Safe Handling & Transporting

The packaging should provide effective protection against damage in handling and transport.

Depending on your items and the intended delivery location, many different handlers and vehicles may be involved in transportation. Therefore, your packaging should protect your items from issues in transport such as:



Shock, impact or jolting inside the vehicle or during handling



Moisture and humidity



Corrosive substances or airborne contaminants



Dust and debris

Usually, any packaged items that have visible damage, such as a broken crate or packaging with water damage, will not be considered safe for transportation and won't be delivered to the location until the packaging issue is rectified. This protects the package, the staff and the other goods being freighted.

Packaging Methods, *Exterior*

Custom-made packaging, built to fit the specific requirements of your items by experts, will always be the most effective in protecting the goods from the issues listed above.

The type of exterior casing you require will depend on the goods you are transporting. Most crates, cases, boxes and pallets come in either timber or plastic.



Timber is used for manufacturing custom-designed packaging such as crates, cases and boxes. Your timber packaging needs to tick the following boxes:

- Crates need to be fitted with skids suitable for forklifts
- All timber used should be free of bark, insects or other contaminants
- The crate's safe working load (SWL) must be higher than the item's weight
- Where possible, screws (not nails) should be used to seal the crates
- The top edges of the crate must be reinforced to withstand the force applied when slings are used
- Any contents inside the crate must be restrained from movement with bracing and blocking items
- The wood needs to be ISPM-15 compliant for certain destinations. Crates without this certification will not be transported to their destination and sent back to the original address.



Plastic exterior packaging is usually not custom-made and comes in-stock standard sizes. Plastic crates, cases, boxes and pallets also need to be able to be stacked and picked up by forklifts. Plastic pallets and crates are lightweight and ideal for perishable products.

Packaging Methods, *Interior*

The type of interior packaging you need will depend on the goods you are transporting. Essentially, the goal of interior packaging is to ensure your items do not move around inside the crate and to minimise any other risks.



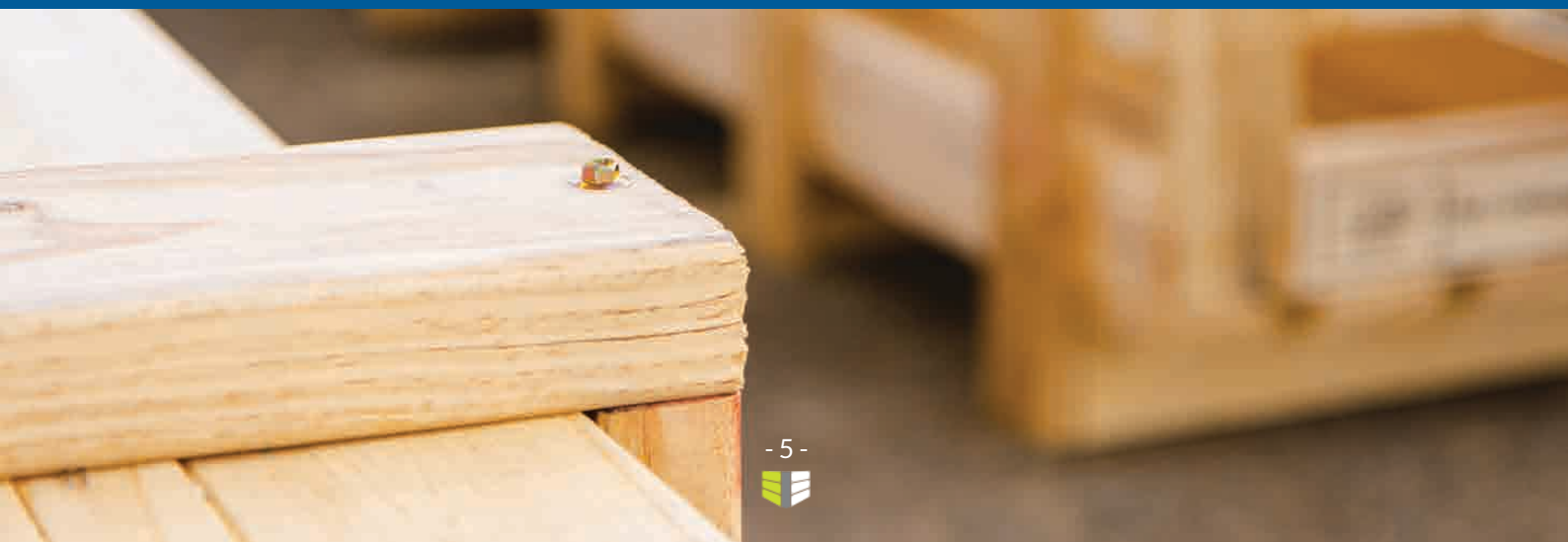
Your interior packaging needs to tick the following boxes, where applicable:

- Bracing, blocking, lashing, and strapping is used to hold the item in place
- Foam, felt or plastic-based materials, such as bubble wrap, pad the crate's interior
- Plastic wrapping or heat shrink wrapping protect the items
- The items are not rubbing against each other or the crate's interior
- Waterproofing measures such as tar paper lining or desiccant lining are in place
- When you rattle or move the crate, the items don't move at all.



Your labels should tick the following boxes:

- No old/non-applicable labels are present
- The label has a single address with clear and complete delivery and returns information
- A duplicate label on the inside of the package
- 'FRAGILE' sticker if applicable.



Don't do this alone. Trust in a reputable packaging supplier such as Aussie Crates.

As you can see from the information above, there's a lot to keep in mind when packaging and transporting items. Although it's possible to organise yourself, we highly recommend avoiding costly mistakes and damage to your items by engaging a packaging specialist to custom-design your packaging, such as Aussie Crates.

At Aussie Crates, our team of experienced designers specialise in manufacturing custom-designed, high-quality wooden crates, cases, and boxes. After 40 years in the industry, our manufacturing capabilities and packaging knowledge are unmatched in WA.

Our packaging solutions take the uncertainty and stress out of transporting your goods across Australia and internationally. With Aussie Crates, you can rest easy knowing your goods will be packaged correctly.

Not just custom Boxes, Pallets and Crates... We do cases, wrapping & storage packaging too!



Find out more about our services at aussiecrates.com.au

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