

Packaging terminology

"A" flute

Fluting height 4.0 to 4.8 mm.

Anilox System

Inking system used in the flexographic presses.

Bar Code

An identification symbol containing Alpha or alphanumeric information, which is encoded in a sequence of high-contrast, rectangular bars and blank spaces. The relative widths of these bars and spaces and their sequence differentiate the individual characters that make up the encode information. Electronic scanners read bar codes.

Blank

A flat sheet of corrugated board that has been cut slotted and scored so that, when folded along the scorelines and joined, it will take the form of a box.

Board

Abbreviation for various paperboards

Box

A rigid container having closed faces and completely enclosing its contents.

Box Style

Distinctive configuration of a box design without regard to size. A name or number identifies styles in common use.

"B" flute

Fluting height 2.1 to 3.0 mm

"C" flute

Fluting height 3.2 to 3.9 mm

Corrugated board

The structure formed by gluing one or more sheets of fluted corrugating medium to one or more flat facings of linerboard. There are four common types:

- **Single Face:** Combination of one fluted corrugating medium glued to one flat facing of linerboard.
- **Single Wall:** Two flat facings of linerboard, one glued to each side of a corrugated medium. Also known as double face.
- **Double Wall:** Three flat facings of linerboard one glued to each side of two corrugated mediums.
- **Triple Wall:** Four flat facings of linerboard, one glued to each side of three corrugated mediums.

Corrugator

The machine that actually makes the corrugated board from flutings and liners.

Die cut

The act of cutting corrugated material to a desired shape by using a die.

Drop test

A test for severe shock forces on filled cases

Dry end

The part of the corrugator that cuts, slits, scores and stacks the board.

E flute

Fluting height 1.0 to 1.8 mm.

Edge Crush Test (ECT)

The edgewise crush resistance or ECT strength test studies the maximum force a piece of board can withstand before it breaks when compression is applied in the direction of the flutes. The value obtained (kN/m) can be directly compared to stacking durability.

F flute

Fluting of height 0.75 mm, also known as micro flute.

Flat Crush Test (FCT)

A test used to determine the strength of the flutes under pressure applied to the flat surface of the board.

Flexographic

A type of rotary letterpress printing using flexible plates and fast drying water based inks.

Flute

A single ridge in the fluting medium or a single ridge on the corrugator roll.

Fluting

Paper that has been formed into the flutes that make up the ridged part of the corrugated board between the liners.

Flute profile

The shape of the corrugations.

Gram weight

The weight of paper measured as g/m² (grams per square meter).

Kraft

Good quality paper made from long, resilient virgin fibres.

Letterpress

A process of printing in which raised images are coated with ink and pressed directly onto a paper or paperboard surface.

Liner

The inner or outer flat facing of corrugated board.

Litho or Lithography

A printing process using a plate that has been chemically treated so that the image to be printed is receptive to ink, while blank areas repel ink.

Mini flute

Non-standard fluting of height 0.55 to 1.0 mm.

Mullen Test

The bursting test gives board-bursting strength as the pressure (kPa), which the board will withstand before bursting.

Moisture Content

The level of moisture (usually expressed as the percentage of moisture in the total sheet) in containerboard affects such properties as printability, shrinkage, dimensional stability (warp) and physical strength.

Newton

Newton is a unit of force. 1 kg exerts a down force of 9.81 N.

N flute

Fluting of height 0.5 to 0.55 mm.

Semi-Chemical or Semi-Chem.

Generic term referring to one of the manufacturing processes for pulping wood for making corrugating medium.

Silk Screen

Stencil-type printing method that involves forcing ink or paint through a mesh of silk or other porous material that has been prepared so as to block the imaging material in some areas.

Single wall

A board comprising of liner – fluting – liner.

Stitcher

A machine that seals the joint and/or flaps of a box with metal staples or stitches.

Substrate

The base material on which a substance (such as ink, adhesive or coating) is applied.

Vibration test

A test to measure persistent shaking forces on filled cases.

Warp

Warp is a deviation from the original or true plane of the surface. Excessive warp may cause crushing of the corrugated medium during automated printing. Box blanks or sheets made from warped board may jam or may not feed properly in converting equipment or from the hoppers of automatic packaging machinery.

Wrap-around Blank

A scored and slotted sheet of corrugated fibreboard that is formed into a box by folding it around its contents. The user makes both the flap and joint closures