

Shipping carton, RSC

REGULAR SLOTTED CONTAINER · ONE GLUED JOINT · TAPE CLOSED

Against the other three shipping formats

FORMAT AGAINST FORMAT

	SHIPPING CARTON, RSC	CORRUGATED MAILER	BOOK-WRAP MAILER	PAPER-PADDED ENVELOPE
	 Shipping carton, RSC CP-CTN	 Corrugated mailer CP-MLR	 Book-wrap mailer CP-BWM	 Paper-padded envelope CP-PPE
Form	Regular slotted container	One-piece box, rolled ends	Wrap-around, variable depth	Flat envelope, fluted liner
Sizes	2 — 406 to 610 mm	3 — 203 to 457 mm	1 — 305 × 229 mm	2 — 229 to 381 mm
Depth	Fixed, 305 / 457 mm	Fixed, 76 / 102 / 152 mm	Variable, 6–50 mm	Flat, cushion only
Board	32 ECT C · 44 ECT BC double wall	32 ECT B · 44 ECT BC	26 ECT E-flute	70 gsm kraft over fluted liner
Maximum gross load	30 kg · 55 kg	9 kg · 16 kg at 1814	3.5 kg	2.3 kg
Closure	Tape or water-activated tape	Tuck lock, no consumable	Self-adhesive strip, two	Self-adhesive strip and tear strip
Void fill	Always needed	Usually needed	Not needed — wraps to the item	Not needed
Second trip, returns	Only with fresh tape	Yes — the lock reopens and recloses	Yes — second adhesive strip	Yes — second adhesive strip
Ships flat	Yes, 8.5 mm	Yes, 7 mm	Yes, 3.2 mm	Yes, 2.8 mm
Best for	Multi-item orders, heavier goods and anything palletised	Rigid or boxed goods that need a defined cavity and a return leg	Books, prints and anything flat where depth varies by order	Soft goods and apparel that need cushioning, not a cavity
Recycled content, band	band 70–100	band 70–100	band 70–100	band 40–69
Listings held by every size	CircleFibre 90, ChainMark, DropRated D3	CircleFibre 90, ReturnReady	CircleFibre 90, ReturnReady	CircleFibre 90, ReturnReady
Minimum order	125 – 250	250 – 500	250	500
Lead time from approval	5 days – 7 days	3 days – 5 days	5 days	4 days
Catalogue status	Published catalogue	Published catalogue	Inferred — not yet in the published catalogue	Inferred — not yet in the published catalogue

The four formats are not ranked. They divide by what the contents need: a cavity, a wrap, a cushion, or volume. The carton is the only one of the four that needs a consumable to close, and the only one rated above 16 kg. Those two facts are the same fact: a seam that has to carry 55 kg is not a seam a fold can hold.

Recycled content is banded here on purpose. A band is what compares across formats without implying a precision the formats do not share. The figure by weight, for this family, is on the features and benefits sheet.

Listings are named, not defined. What each mark certifies, and against which test, is on the features and benefits sheet.

CHOOSING BETWEEN THEM

Choose the shipping carton

When the order is multi-item, heavy, or going onto a pallet. The RSC is the only one of the four rated above 16 kg, and the only one that makes sense once you are stacking several deep.

Choose the corrugated mailer

When the contents are rigid or already boxed and want a defined cavity, when the category has returns, and when the pack bench matters — nothing has to be dispensed to close it. Budget for void fill; the cavity is fixed and the contents rarely are.

Choose the book-wrap mailer

When depth varies order to order and the contents are flat. The wrap folds down to the item, so there is no void to fill and no oversize charge on a thin order. It closes on adhesive, so it costs a consumable the mailer does not.

Choose the paper-padded envelope

When the contents are soft, light and need cushioning rather than a cavity — apparel, textiles, small accessories. It is the cheapest and smallest of the four in transit, and the least protective against a crushing load.

Board for board, the RSC is the cheapest way to enclose a given volume in the range — it has no rolled ends, no lock and no wasted panel. What it costs instead is tape on every carton and void fill in most of them.

Loads, board grades and closures are taken from the CambiumPak product specification. The shipping carton and the corrugated mailer are ratified catalogue families. Figures for the book-wrap mailer and the paper-padded envelope are inferred from the nearest ratified family member and are not yet in the published catalogue.