

Moulded pulp tray, six cavity

WET-PRESS · NESTABLE · BINDER-FREE

CP-PLP-T06 240 × 160 × 38 mm

The tray arrives moulded. There is nothing to fold, nothing to assemble and no consumable, so this sheet covers destacking, loading and closing rather than construction. Read the cautions once; after that a tray is loaded in about eight seconds.

READ FIRST

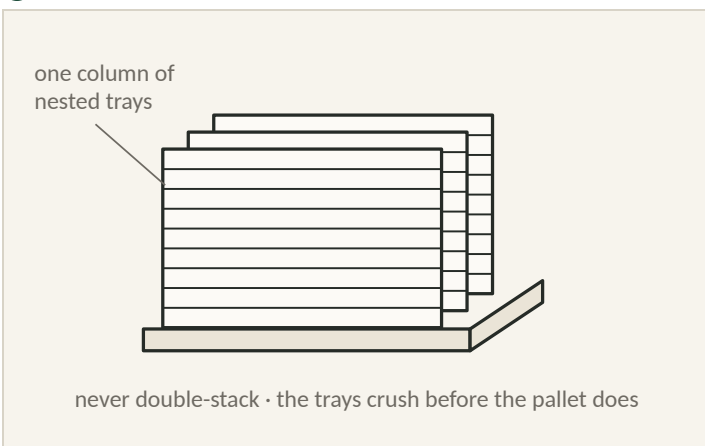
- ! Take trays from the top of a column, never from the middle. Pulling one out of the middle drops the trays above it onto their rims, and a bruised rim never nests properly again.
- ! Lift straight up, not at an angle. The destack lugs give a column somewhere to break; tilting the top tray jams it back onto the one below.
- ! One item to a cavity. A second item in a cavity sits proud of the rim, and everything stacked above lands on it instead of on the tray.
- ! Do not stack loaded trays directly on each other unless the item sits below the rim. The rim carries the column; the goods must not.
- ! Keep trays dry. Wet pulp has no strength at all, and a tray that has been damp does not recover when it dries.

ON THE PALLET

Trays per pallet layer	300, nested
Layers per pallet	8
Tools required	None
Required consumable	None
Loading time, after practice	8 seconds

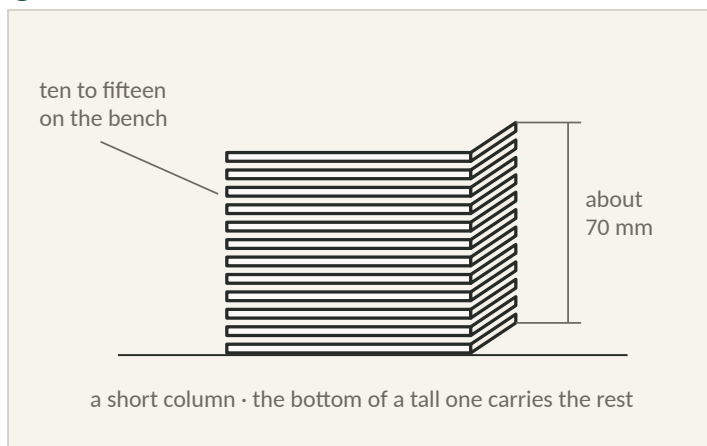
AT THE PALLET, STEPS 1 TO 4

1 Take a column from the pallet



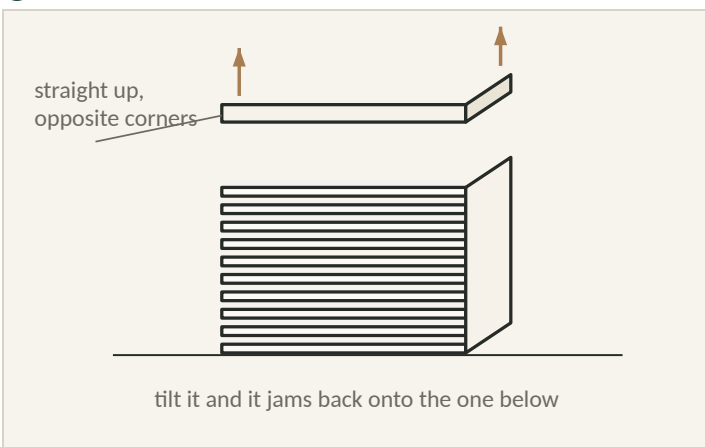
Trays arrive nested in columns, wrapped single height on the pallet. Take a whole column from the top rather than pulling trays out of one in place: a column worked from the middle drops the trays above it onto their rims, and a bruised rim never nests properly again.

2 Stand a short column on the bench



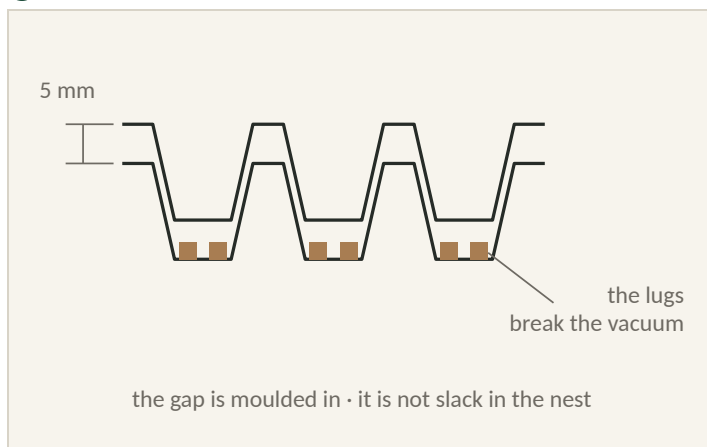
Ten to fifteen trays is the working length — enough to be worth setting down, few enough that the bottom of the column is not carrying the rest. Nested, that column is about seventy millimetres tall, because the nest pitch is five.

3 Lift the top tray straight up



Both hands on opposite rim corners, and go vertically. The tray is not stuck to the one below and does not need to be worked free; tilting it is what jams it back on, because a drafted wall grips as soon as it stops being parallel.

4 Why it comes apart at all



Two smooth pulp faces pressed together in transit will hold each other. Lugs are moulded into every cavity floor so there is a positive gap between one tray and the next, which is what a lift has to find. The gap is designed in; it is not slack, and it does not close up with use.

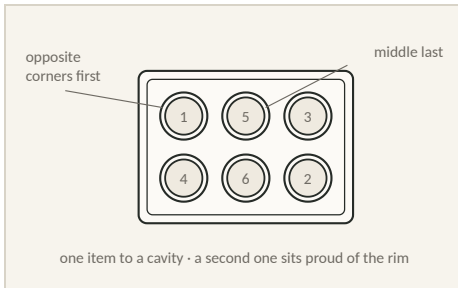
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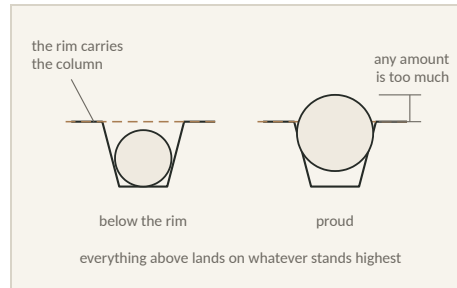
LOADING, STEPS 5 TO 7

5 Load one item to a cavity



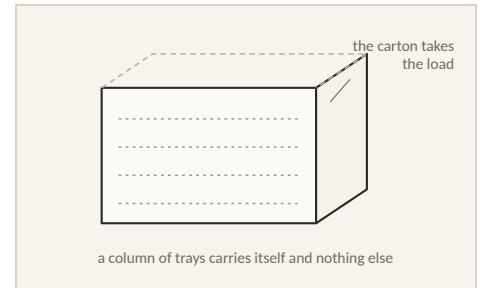
Fill opposite corners first and the middle cavities last. A tray loaded from one end leans before it is half full, and the last item then goes in at an angle. One item to a cavity, always — a second one has nowhere to sit but on top of the first.

6 Check nothing stands proud of the rim



The rim is what carries the tray above it, so anything higher than the rim takes that load instead. Look across the loaded tray at eye level rather than down at it; from above, an item sitting twenty millimetres proud looks exactly like one sitting flush.

7 Stack the loaded trays in the outer



Loaded trays stack rim on rim inside the shipping carton. The column supports its own weight and no more — everything above it on the pallet is carried by the carton walls, which is why the outer is specified for the load and the tray is not.

IF A TRAY WILL NOT DESTACK

SYMPTOM	CAUSE	FIX
Two trays lift together	The column has been compressed in transit, or the top tray was lifted at an angle	Set both down, lift the top one straight up by opposite rim corners. If it happens down the whole column, the pallet was over-wrapped
The top tray will not lift at all	Trays stored damp and the wall has taken up moisture	Take the column out of service. A damp tray has no cavity load and cannot be dried back at the bench
An item sits proud of the rim	The item is over 70 mm at its widest, or two are in one cavity	One to a cavity. If a single item still stands proud, it is the wrong tool — check the choosing table on the spec sheet
The loaded column leans	Trays not seated square, or a cavity loaded unevenly across the tray	Load opposite cavities before the middle ones. A tray loaded from one end leans before it is half full
Rims are cracking on the pallet	The pallet has been stacked two high, or the outer carton is carrying nothing	The carton takes the load, not the trays. Restack single height and check the outer spec

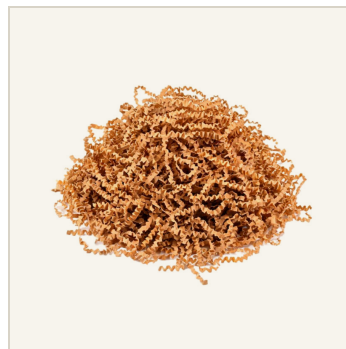
WHAT GOES IN WITH IT



CP-CTN-RSC1

Shipping carton, RSC

The outer that carries the load a column of trays does not.



CP-VF-CR18

Crinkle void fill

For the headspace above the top tray, where a column stops short of the carton.



CP-TP-G70

Water-activated paper tape

Closing the outer. The tray itself needs nothing.

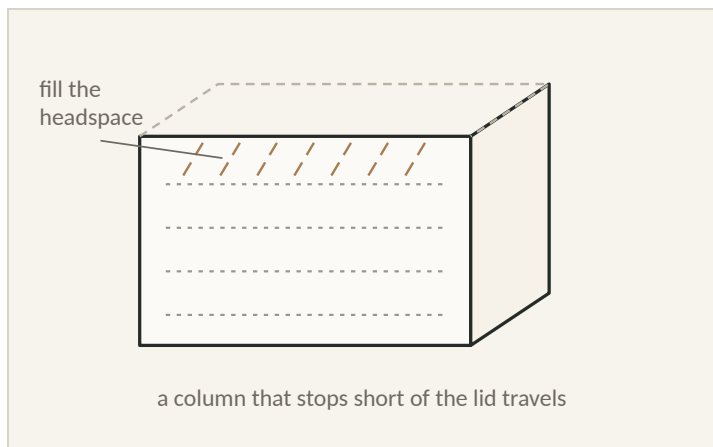
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CLOSING, AND THE RETURN LEG

8 Fill what is left above the top tray



A column of trays rarely finishes level with the carton mouth. Whatever headspace is left has to be filled, or the whole column travels the moment the carton is set down — and a column that has travelled arrives with its rims out of line.

STORAGE

Before make-up

- Store pallets single height, wrapped, off the floor.
- Do not double-stack. The trays crush long before the pallet does, and the damage is at the bottom where nobody looks.
- Keep dry. Wet pulp loses its strength completely and does not get it back on drying.
- There is no shelf life on a dry nested tray. The limit is handling damage, not age.

If trays are arriving at the line in pairs, look at how the pallet was wrapped before looking at the trays. A column compressed hard enough in transit will close the gap the destack lugs are there to hold, and the tray that will not come apart at the bench was made correctly and packed badly.

PALLET HANDLING

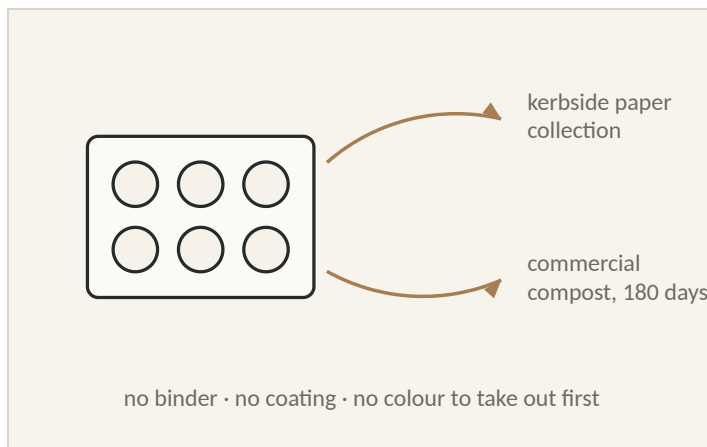
Stack height, palletised	1 pallet — do not double-stack
Storage position	Nested, upright, wrapped, off the floor
Opened layer	Rewrap, or run out within the shift
Bruised rim	Scrap it — a bruised rim will jam the next nest it goes into

BENCH SETUP

Working a column

- Stand a short column on the bench rather than working from the pallet. Ten to fifteen trays is about right: enough to be worth setting down, few enough that the bottom of the column is not carrying a load.
- Lift by opposite rim corners with both hands and go straight up. The lugs have already left a gap; the lift only has to find it.
- Load opposite cavities first, then the middle. A tray filled from one end leans before it is half full and the last item goes in at an angle.
- Check the top of the column, not the bottom. A rim that has been knocked shows at the top of the next nest, which is where it will jam.

9 Two ways out, no separation step



The tray is recycled newsprint and water with nothing added, so it goes into kerbside paper collection exactly as it is. Where it has been in contact with food, commercial composting takes it down inside a hundred and eighty days. Neither route asks anyone to pull anything off it first.

END OF LIFE

After the last trip

- The whole tray goes into kerbside paper collection as it is.
- It also breaks down in commercial composting inside 180 days, which is the route to take if it has been in contact with food.
- There is no coating, binder or colour to separate out first.
- Return trays nested if they are going into a returns pool. A nested column ships for a twentieth of what a loose one does.

Check the load limit before despatch. The tray carries one cavity load rating and it is held on the spec sheet. Read it there, not from a bench card; a figure copied onto a card is a figure that goes stale.

MAKE-UP TIME, AFTER PRACTICE

CP-PLP-T06	8 seconds
CP-PLP-T12	13 seconds — twice the cavities, not twice the time