



## PATIO FURNITURE PACKAGING SPECIFICATIONS

**Scope:** To develop packaging requirements for patio furniture items shipped to Lowe's.

**Objective:** To ensure minimum packaging elements have been implemented by Lowe's Patio Furniture suppliers, in the effort to minimize product damages associated with distribution throughout the Distribution Center and Store environments.

**Material Requirements:**

- Individual master cartons for patio furniture must consist of the following packaging components:
- **WAIVERS INVOLVING ALTERNATIVE MATERIALS WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR PACKAGES THAT PASS THE TRANSIT TESTING PROCEDURES.**
- **Cartons must be constructed of long-fiber imported brown Kraft.**

**4 Pack Chairs, 4 Pack Bar Stools and Dining Tables 40" and Larger Corrugated Carton:**

- Double-Wall A/B Flute with **Full Overlap Top and Bottom**
- Burst Strength = 350# (lbs. per square inch)
- Edge Crush = 51# (lbs. per inch width)
- Weight of Outer Liner = 42# (lbs. per 1000 square feet)
- Weight of Middle Liner = 42# (lbs. per 1000 square feet)
- Weight of Inner Liner = 42# (lbs. per 1000 square feet)

**2 Pack Swivel Rockers, 2 Pack Bar Stools and Dining Tables 32-38" Corrugated Carton:**

- Double-Wall A/B Flute with **Full Overlap Top and Bottom**
- Burst Strength = 275# (lbs. per square inch)
- Edge Crush = 48# (lbs. per inch width)
- Weight of Outer Liner = 36# (lbs. per 1000 square feet)
- Weight of Middle Liner = 36# (lbs. per 1000 square feet)
- Weight of Inner Liner = 36# (lbs. per 1000 square feet)

**Umbrella, Umbrella Base and Bistro or Side Table Corrugated Carton:**

- Double-Wall A/B Flute with **Full Overlap Top and Bottom**
- Burst Strength = 200# (lbs. per square inch)
- Edge Crush = 42# (lbs. per inch width)

- Weight of Outer Liner = 30# (lbs. per 1000 square feet)
- Weight of Middle Liner = 30# (lbs. per 1000 square feet)
- Weight of Inner Liner = 30# (lbs. per 1000 square feet)

## **COMMON PACKAGING COMPONENTS**

### **Interior Padding:**

- Poly-foam covering surfaces in contact with shipping carton and products.
- Protective caps over leg ends sufficient to contain product within shipping carton.
- All components must be adequately secured and protected to prevent movement of product inside master carton.
- Rigid corner supports must be utilized to ensure adequate stacking and handling integrity.

### **Access Holes:**

- Access holes should be utilized based on carton size and handling issues.
- Access holes must comply with the Lowe's Access Hole Specification- **see Appendix F of this document**

### **Package Markings:**

- International Handling Symbols should be a minimum of 4 inches tall and clearly printed
- **Maximum stack height and orientation arrows must be included.**
- If the carton size will not allow 4" lettering, the maximum size is determined by the available space and graphics appeal.
- **Refer to FIGURE B / HANDLING SYMBOLS**

### **Plastic Strapping:**

- Minimum width = ½"
- If metal clips are utilized to secure the strapping, they must be free of sharp points or edges.
- Padding must be inserted between the strapping and corrugated carton to maintain carton integrity.

### **Sealing Tape:**

- Refer to Sealing Tape Specifications in LowesLink Mexico Packaging Guidelines

### **Testing Requirements:**

#### **Vibration and Drop Tests:**

- ISTA procedure 1A for packages less than 150 Pounds.
- ISTA procedure 1B for packages equal to or greater than 150 pounds.

### **Squeeze Clamp Tests:**

Packaged product must withstand 2000 pounds of pressure across the package surface, front to back and side to side without damage. One of the following test methods should be utilized:

#### **Clamp Truck Method:**

1. Place entire packaged product between clamp platens.
2. Apply force of 2000 pounds and completely lift package off the ground.
3. Set package down, remove force.
4. Inspect product for damage.

#### **Compression Test Method:**

1. ISTA procedure 2A.
2. Ensure packaged is in correct orientation i.e. front to back and side to side.
3. Remove force.
4. Inspect product for damage.

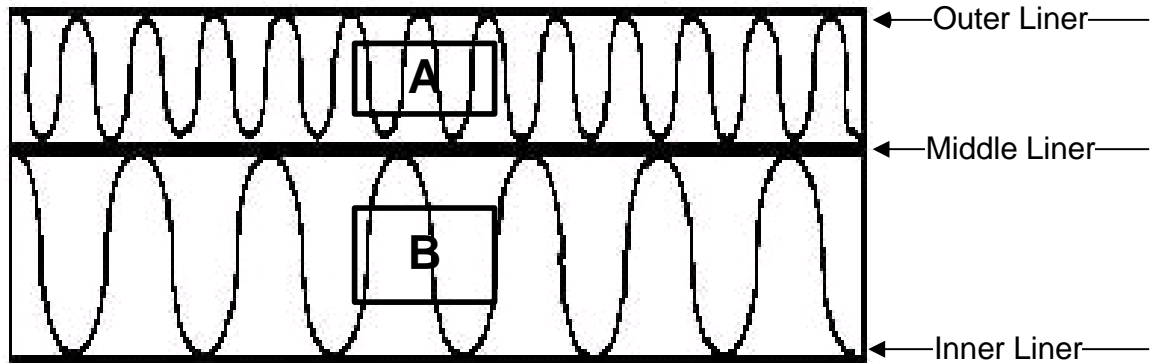
### **Vertical Compression Tests:**

- Product must be capable of being stacked a **minimum of 16 feet (192 inches)** and a **maximum of 20 feet**. The compression requirement is determined in the following manner:

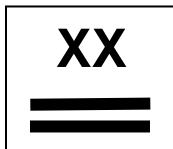
*Example is a carton with a depth of 36" and a weight of 50 pounds.*

1. Determine maximum number of boxes above bottom carton:  
(Gross stack height/box depth) – 1  
 $192" / 36 = 6 - 1 = 5$  *number of cartons above bottom carton*
2. Determine load on bottom box:  
Number of cartons above bottom carton (weight)  
 $5 * 50 = 250$
3. Environmental Factor of 3(load) = Compression Requirement  
 $50 * 3 = 750$  *Compression for 1 Hour*

**FIGURE A / CORRUGATED SPECIFICATION**



**FIGURE B / INTERNATIONAL HANDLING SYMBOLS (must be printed on 4 carton panels)**



**Stack Height:**

- Insert correct stacking height in place of XX.
- Example: If the recommended maximum stack height is 8 high, replace XX with 8.
- The recommended stack height is to be identified by the vendor



**Orientation Arrow:**

- To be used to identify the correct orientation of the product for shipping and storage purposes.



**Clamp Direction:**

- To be placed on the recommendation side(s) of the carton in which the clamp truck can approach and lift the carton