



## International Packaging Corporation (UK) Ltd

# Glossary Of Packaging Terms

Assisting you with the technical jargon!

<b>Blank</b>	The initial piece of board from which we make your box.
<b>Bleed</b>	Sounds painful but it is simply the area outside the cut area of the paper that is printed. Usually just a few millimetres.
<b>Caliper</b>	The thickness of the board – usually expressed in microns (1000 micron = 1mm). Rigid boxes are usually between 1000 -2000 microns thick; folding cartons are usually 450-800 microns.
<b>Carton</b>	A container made from 1 piece of board, glued or stitched up one edge and packed flat. Smaller cartons are generally made from solidboard e.g. point of sale items, larger cartons from corrugated board e.g. transit packs though there is some overlap depending on use.
<b>Corrugated Board</b>	Board made from 2 flat sheets of liner board with a corrugated fluting between (single-wall) or three sheets of liner with 2 layers of fluting (double-wall).
<b>Deboss</b>	The opposite of “emboss”! A sunken area or image pressed into the surface of a board, usually on a presentation or gift box.
<b>Die-cut</b>	The process of cutting out a shape using a steel cutting tool (the die or forme), rather like a pastry cutter. Used for a huge variety of inserts for gift boxes and most styles of folding carton.
<b>Die</b>	A steel cutting tool.
<b>Dimensions</b>	Box dimensions are usually Length x Width x Height.
<b>Emboss</b>	A raised area pressed out of the board.
<b>Foil Blocking</b>	The process of transferring hot foil onto board. This is the simplest and most economical method of printing, particularly for short runs.
<b>Folding Boxboard</b>	High quality board used for food and cosmetic packaging because of its smoother finish and strength.

<b>Forme</b>	A steel cutting tool (or die) or a general term for a printing block for foil block printing.
<b>Flute</b>	The wavy corrugated part of corrugated board. The most popular are e-flute or can(1.5mm approx), B flute (3mm approx) & C flute (5mm approx).
<b>GSM</b>	Refers to weight of covering paper or weight of paper used to make carrier bags. Typically box wrap paper works best using 80-130gsm. Most popular bag papers are in region of 170-200gsm.
<b>Hinged lid</b>	Lid attached to a box on one side.
<b>Insert</b>	Material inside a box, cut to size to support and/or cushion an item. Most often made from board or foam. Often with suede/PU material covering.
<b>Laminate</b>	The process of sticking one product to another – e.g. printed material laminated to board. Also used to refer to a thin layer of clear plastic stuck to (usually) printed material to give higher gloss finish or extra protection. Matt lamination is also popular
<b>Lift-Off Lid</b>	The most popular style of rigid gift box, with a lid either full- or partial depth that lifts off completely
<b>Lining</b>	Paper that is used to cover the inside of a box
<b>Pantone Colours</b>	A library of standard colours which can be reproduced accurately.
<b>Platform</b>	Card insert designed to raise the floor of the base of a presentation box or with cut-out to hold items in place.
<b>Plastic square cornered hinged box</b>	Refers to most popular style of hinged box imported from Far East. Box has plastic shell and is wrapped in a variety of finish papers.
<b>Pouch</b>	Usually made from suede materials. Most popular with drawstring closure.
<b>PU Material</b>	Imitation leather type material often used for lining inside of presentation boxes.
<b>Reverse out</b>	Print that is cut out of the background print revealing a different colour or the board/paper colour behind.
<b>Rigid box</b>	General term to describe a box & lid supplied assembled and unable to be flat-packed.
<b>Satin</b>	Satin is used extensively in the base of gift and presentation boxes as well as covering platforms. Polystyrene beads and board fitments can be used under satin to hold items in place. Also often used on inside lids of hinged boxes.

<b>Scoring</b>	Creasing board to produce a fold.
<b>Shoulder box</b>	Style of gift/presentation box where the base incorporates an inner tray that creates a lip for the lid to rest on.
<b>Sleeve</b>	Tubular form of card that slides over a box for added protection. Useful for printing on rather than printing on the box itself.
<b>Textured Papers</b>	Papers that have an embossed pattern rather than a smooth finish, often used for gift boxes. Most popular includes buckram, chamois and linen.
<b>Two Piece Packer</b>	Used mainly as alternative to protective sleeve for a presentation box. This simple lift of lidded box adds a bit of luxury and can be wrapped in same paper as actual presentation box if required. Most popular wrapped in a basic glossy white paper.
<b>Wrap</b>	Paper that is stuck onto the outside of a box

