

WHAT IS MY CORRUGATED BOX MADE FROM?

Corrugated board is made from a renewable source, is paper based, environmentally friendly, fully recyclable and fully bio-degradable. It is generally made of three pieces of paper bonded together with a starch adhesive and with the middle layer of paper being corrugated (fluted) which gives the end product its strength.

Various types of papers are produced by paper mills for the manufacture of corrugated board, but most commonly there are only two types used:

Virgin paper, produced from wood pulp, which is called Kraft Liner. This comes in brown, white or off-white (mottled) and in various paper thickness'. This paper contains up to 12% recycled material. Kraft liner is usually used on the outside of the corrugated.

What is referred to as Test-liner is a paper made up from already 100% recycled paper, (usually from recycled virgin corrugated boxes, newspaper and magazine waste etc). This too comes in different thickness' and is usually used as the inside liner, or inside paper of the box and for the ribbed fluting that gives a corrugated box its strength.

Typically, any sheet of corrugated board is made up of an average of 80 - 82% of already 100% recycled paper, with the remaining 18-20% of the board being made from fully recyclable, fully biodegradable material taken from renewable sources which contains about 12% of its make-up as already recycled.

In manufacture of your packaging nothing whatever is wasted. Eastern Box have a suction based waste removal system in place that takes trim waste from manufacture and compacts it into baler skips, which then go directly for recycling. We recycle 100% of our paper-based manufacturing waste.

Corrugated packaging also makes its own strong environmental case. More and more companies are looking at how they can reduce the carbon footprint of their packaging. In this context, corrugated packaging has a very strong case to make. Firstly, it is fully recyclable and 80 – 82% of our packaging is made from already 100% recycled paper, while an established and effective capture and recycling infrastructure means that 84% of used corrugated packaging is already recycled in the UK.

This means that, by using corrugated instead of less environmentally friendly materials, customers are already on the path to achieving their environmental objectives. **Second, the increasing strength to weight ratio of corrugated board means** that it is taking over from materials such as plastic, wood and even metals. **Third, because landfill costs can be expected to rise inexorably**, we believe customers will be trying to find ways to improve their entire environmental strategy as far as packaging is concerned and corrugated fits the bill.