



MAGAZINE PCM

TRIMESTRAL

MAY 2023

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ARTICLES

- What are the types of cardboard for packaging?
- What is the process for making plasticized cardboard boxes?
- How is thermal paper for cash register used?
- How do thermal transfer tapes for ribbons work?
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What are the types of cardboard for packaging?



Knowing about the types of cardboard is especially important for the packaging industry. Many products will be easy to package and will not require much effort to store.

In this article you will be able to know more precisely what the types of cardboard are to pack your products faster and, of course, with great efficiency.

What is packaging?



Packaging is something that is used to wrap a product very delicately so that it arrives at its destination in good condition. When there are accidents or many products, these products must be carefully packed so that each product is preserved intact.

It can also help to promote its features to the clients. For example, a product can be wrapped and packed in a box to make it more attractive to the eye, or it can be designed to be easily opened and accessed.

What are the types of cardboard for packaging?

Cardboard is a common material for many products, such as packaging and furniture. In addition to being strong and durable, it can be recycled. Cardboard is also a great material for making boxes, crates, and other products. Types of cardboard vary, but among the most popular are the following:

1. corrugated cardboard: a type of paper made from various materials that are cut into various shapes and sizes. It is often used in packaging because it resists wrinkling and is easy to clean.

Corrugated cardboard is also used to create a variety of products, such as boxes, crates, and tents.

2. Paperboard: there are many types of cardboard, but the most popular is paperboard. It is made from a mixture of recycled paper and wood pulp. It is strong, durable, and easy to work with; perfect for making boxes, packaging, and other products.

It is also environmentally friendly, producing no emissions when used. It can also be recycled, which is a great advantage. If you are looking for an alternative to plastic, paperboard is an excellent choice.

3. Compact cardboard: this is a paper product made from recycled fibers. There are many finishing methods possible for diverse types and grades of paper.

4. Stone cardboard: Stone cardboard is a type of paper made from crushed and dried stone. It is used to make boxes, packaging and other items that must be durable and wear resistant.

Stone cardboard is also used to make paperweights and other small objects. It is a natural product, easy to work with and long lasting.



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We already know that these are sustainable materials and can be used to make environmentally friendly products. In addition, cardboard is an excellent choice for packaging because it does not cause damage to the environment.

Tips for packaging

Cardboard packaging is a vital part of any business. It is easy to use and can be recycled, which is great, but there are a few things to keep in mind when packaging your products:

- Clean and free of dirt, dust, and other debris.
- Stored in a cool, dry place.
- Away from light

Take diligent care of it and you will see how quickly you will be able to pack any product you want!



Packing with care

Packing also works for going to another country. When organizing your suitcase for a trip, it is important to make sure you pack it carefully. If you pack light, you will be able to pack lightly and less delicately. Finally, be sure to store medicines in a safe place. This type of product can be packed very carefully. Cardboard such as corrugated cardboard is suitable for this type of task.

All these precautions will help you reduce the chances of your products being damaged during the trip and will guarantee you the best possible experience. You do not have to pack everything but remember that if you have things that require extreme care, such as glass, you will have to use this method.

Cardboard packaging is a common and effective way to store products. It is lightweight and easy to store, and it is perfect for small and medium-sized businesses. Given that cardboard packaging is so easy to use, it is a great option for products that need to be stored quickly and easily.

In addition, cardboard packaging is environmentally friendly, as it produces no harmful chemicals or emissions. And because it is so easy to use, it is an excellent choice for products that need to be stored in a controlled environment.



What is the process for making plasticized cardboard boxes?



There is no doubt that plasticized cardboard boxes have had an infinite number of uses over the years. However, there is a topic that is not much talked about, and that is the manufacturing process, which is why we have decided to provide you with this information!

Manufacturing process of plasticized cardboard boxes



Plasticized cardboard boxes are a polypropylene sheet, which offers hardness and versatility. It is used in many industries: packaging, agriculture, graphic arts, automotive and industrial sectors. Common applications include commercial display, stationery stores, bookbinding, and vehicle trunk liners.

These containers made of polypropylene are durable, returnable, reusable, and waterproof. They are perfect for fresh-cut vegetables, frozen products with ice or refrigerated products. They have good resistance to acid and chemical attack, as well as low moisture absorption.



If you want to learn more about the types of cardboard for packaging, please refer to the article where we explain in more detail the products of our Corrugated division and find out how they can help you to improve your productivity if you select the ideal product for your business.



WHICH PACKAGING TO CHOOSE FOR EACH SHIPMENT?



There are varied sizes depending on the type of shipment. Each of them should be adapted to your needs and the objectives you are pursuing with the packaging. At PCM we have what you need, and we put them at your disposal:

Jumbo type

These are large packages, available in sizes of 98 x 208 inches maximum. They are available in one piece. They are made of materials such as: single, double, and triple corrugated cardboard; flute types A, B and C in all possible combinations. Their most common uses are in large products such as refrigerators and washing machines. In the agricultural sector, they are used in containers for scrap handling and internal use for shrimp transportation.



Slotted type

These slotted boxes are assembled in one piece with flaps that facilitate the grip while handling. You can find them in a single model type E, B and C flutes, with double corrugated cardboard and flutes with all combinations. It is used to transport, keep, store, pack, protect and conserve products.

They are weight resistant according to their application or the process you choose, in addition to a wide range of protective coatings. The industries that most demand them are industries focused on ceramic flooring, agricultural, pharmaceutical, personal care, automotive, cleaning products, food, and beverages.



Die-cut type

They have a cut that marks the folds you need to assemble them without the need for glue. You can find them with single, double, and triple corrugation. Their most common use is in the food, agricultural, automotive, and manufacturing industries.

Ideally, you can choose the one that best suits your needs. Everything will depend on the type of shipment you are making and what the packaging will contain. Remember that the most important thing is to protect the product, so take your time and choose the right one.



At PCM we are committed to improving your profitability.

Many companies use plasticized cardboard boxes for their operations, most of them have problems with inferior quality and delivery times, forcing them to buy the material again.

Plasticized cardboard boxes are made of a strong and resistant material, which allows you to carry products of considerable weight or volume without breaking. Besides being a biodegradable and ecological material.

How is thermal paper for cash register used?



Many people are curious about thermal paper for cash registers, how does it work and why does it behave in such a peculiar way? It is one of the materials that arouses most curiosity and that is why it is important to understand how it works.

Are you thinking of acquiring this type of paper for your business? Today we will show you the best uses it can be put to and how it is produced. Ready to learn all about thermal paper? Stick around until the end.

What is thermal paper for cash register?

FIRST OF ALL

We should define thermal paper for cash register as an especially useful printing material. Nowadays, it is used in a wide variety of businesses for all kinds of printing. In addition, it stands out for its peculiar way of use.

Normally when we print on a sheet of paper, what happens is the impregnation of ink on it. The ink dries almost instantly, which means that the print is not damaged. However, in the case of thermal paper rolls, what happens is a more complex chemical reaction.

Basically, the printing is produced by the application of heat to the paper. Of course, there are many details you should know about this material before purchasing it.



HOW IS THERMAL PAPER FOR CASH REGISTER MANUFACTURED?

It should be noted that the thermal paper for cash register is made up of several parts or layers. Each of these is made during production and are important for its function.

We can talk about:

The paper itself, which functions as the base of the entire thermal roll. It comes in different weights, which are important for a correct operation.

Internal coating, which is known for giving a much smoother texture to the paper. It could be said that it is the protection of the base paper, but it is also the support of the thermal layer.

Finally, the thermal layer of the paper. It is the outermost and the one that suffers the effects caused by the thermal printer. Therefore, it is here where the actual printing takes place thanks to its chemical agents.

And in this way, a useful and durable thermal paper for cash register can be created. Of course, you are probably wondering what the most common uses of this paper are. Do not worry, we will tell you below.



How does thermal paper work?

If we dig a little deeper into the composition of thermal paper, we will find the hair color layer. This is made up of several elements that include leuco dye, adhesive, and a chromogenic agent. The dye is always in capsules that can be activated during printing.

The reaction produced by the thermal printer head activates the chromogenic agent. This results in a discoloration of the paper, which normally turns black. Even with the use of a lighter we can generate such a reaction.

WHERE IS THERMAL PAPER FOR CASH REGISTERS USED?

Thermal paper is usually sold in the form of rolls that can be inserted into thermal printers. Its uses are very varied, and we can find some very outstanding ones:

- Card payment terminals
- Cash registers
- Static or portable thermal printers
- Electronic scales
- Vouchers and bank documents
- Take-A-Number tickets
- ATM invoices

In short, thermal paper for cash registers is often used successfully in other areas. Especially in the banking sector, where constant printing is required every day. Of course, it is also used in businesses that issue invoices and tickets.



Why use thermal paper for cash register?



We should also talk a little about the advantages of thermal paper. After all, these are what define why it is so highly valued in different businesses.

Some key features of this material are as follows:

- **You have a wide variety of sizes to suit your needs. Whether you need to print tickets, invoices or larger documents, you will always have options to do so.**
- **Thermal printers are extremely easy to use and have the particularity of making few mistakes. This, in comparison to devices that use ink.**
- **These machines are also characterized by emitting less noise than a conventional printer. The thermal paper for regulator box is certainly a much more practical item to use.**
- **You will not have to constantly replace ink cartridges. The ceramic head is a one-time purchase, so it represents a saving.**

And this last point is the most decisive when it comes to opting for thermal paper. The economic cost is much lower compared to conventional printers that require ink. This makes investing in this material the best way to save in the long term.

ACCESS TO THE BEST MATERIALS AT PCM

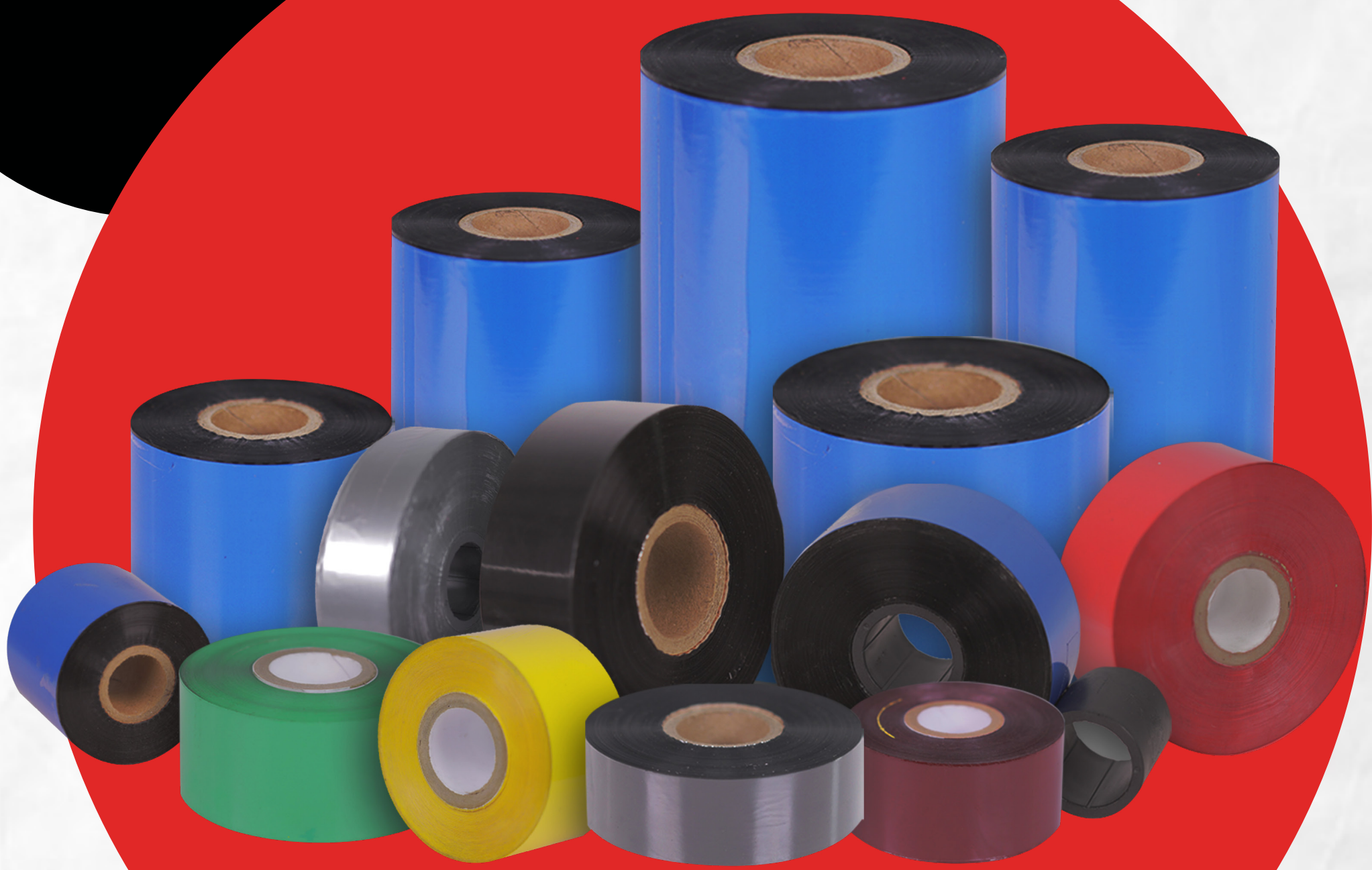
Are you looking for the best thermal paper for cash register? You should know that at PCM you will find the best offers on all types of paper supplies. In addition, they are the best quality materials that do not damage the print heads and last up to 10 years per print.

PCM's thermal paper rolls are FSC certified, guaranteeing that they are environmentally friendly. Since this paper is lint and dust free, it will not cause any damage to your thermal printers. Do you need more reasons to buy them as soon as possible?

If you want more information, just go to PCM's thermal paper section. Discover how you can order any size you need in rolls for your thermal printers.



How do thermal transfer tapes for ribbons work?



The application of heat to the printhead is achieved through thermal transfer tapes for ribbons. This heating action is developed in order to adhere the information to be printed on the body of a given label.

By means of this method, prints are made on various materials except those that are not thermal, that is to say, that do not withstand high temperatures. Sometimes barcodes and also labels are printed in series to make a joint work.

Thermal transfer tapes for ribbons. Features



The supplies used to print labels are suitable for thermal transfer tapes for ribbons. These supplies come in roll presentations of different sizes that are placed directly on the printer head. They are made of wax substrates, resins, or a fusion between both materials.

It should be noted that the substrates have fundamental characteristics in terms of their malleability, strength, and printing speed, for excellent performance. Their letters and figures cannot be erased by water, extreme heat, strong friction, or exposure to the environment.

3. Completion indicator

This is a signal located at the end of the ribbon supply to alert the machine that the material on the roll has run out. It is necessary to indicate that there is not a determined number of layers that wrap around the mandrel although its usefulness is prolonged according to the SUPPLIER of trust.



Among the most important parts of the ribbons that fulfill different and specific functions, the following can be listed:

1. Header

It is the external protection that covers the roll. It is used in the installation of the ribbon when it is incorporated into the machine. This covering ensures the care of the implement, preventing the formation of wrinkles or deformations in the ribbon.

2. Mandrel

It is located in the center of the ribbon, and on it, the different layers that make up the ribbon are wrapped. It has the shape of a cylindrical tube that allows the exact arrangement of the sheets for future printing.

TRANSFERENCIA TÉRMICA

- Thermal transfer is carried out by means of chemical and physical processes in which 3 important factors are involved. These elements are the transferable material, the substrate used in printing and the heat. To understand this process, it is necessary to make certain considerations:

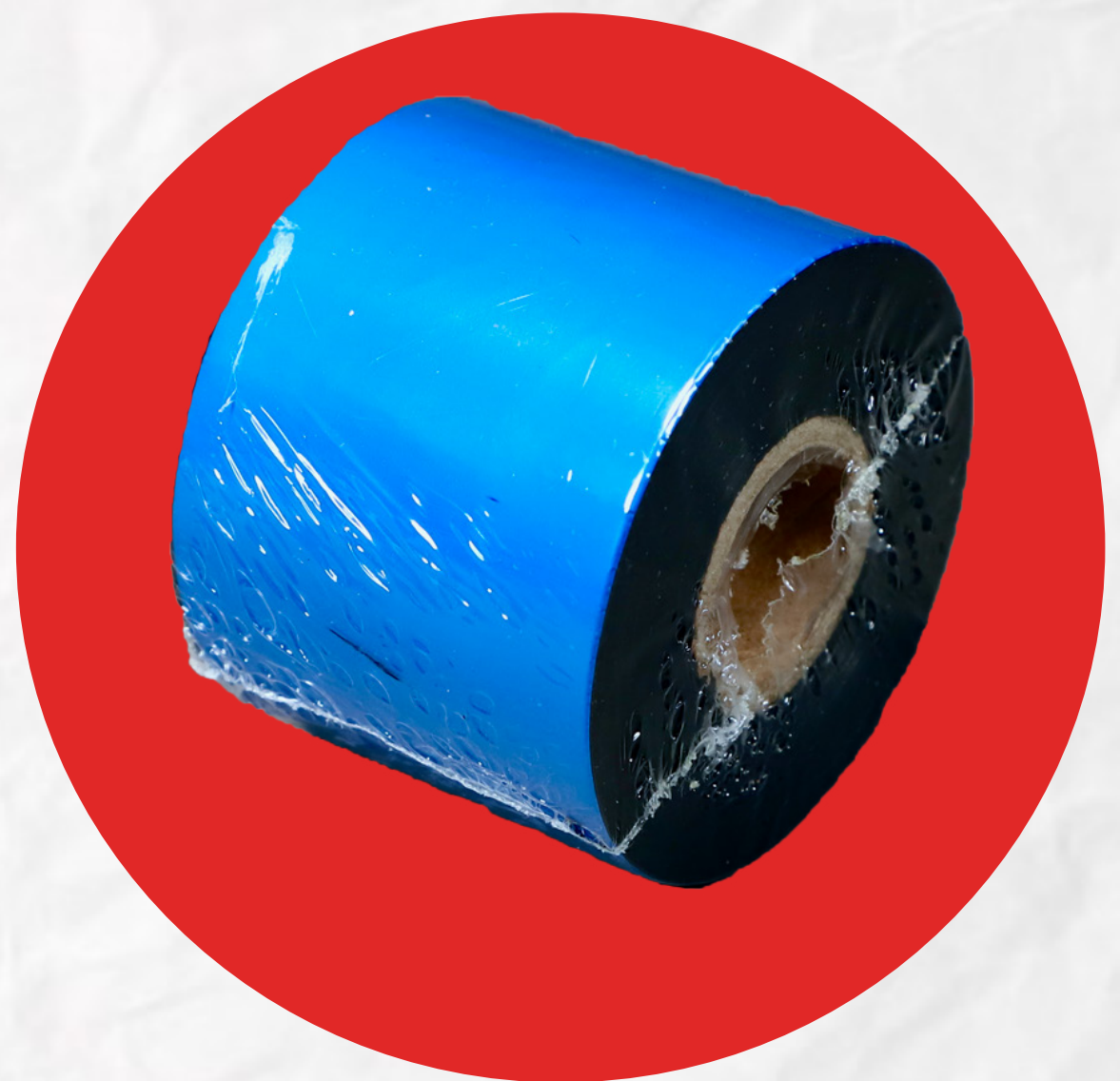
HOW DO THERMAL TRANSFER RIBBONS WORK?

- 1. The transferable material is the ribbon itself also known as thermal transfer ribbon.** The referred ribbon is made of polyester and coated by a black pigmentation dissolved in wax or resin depending on the intended use.
- 2. The substrate used is either resin or wax based.** In some cases, for high quality reviews, the use of an alloy of both elements is recommended. With this action, greater strength will be achieved to the label prints and their hardness will be better.
- 3. The heat is the main element of this process as it will allow a precise and indelible adhesion on the film.** In addition to the high temperature, the pressure exerted by the head on the ribbon is used to achieve a high definition and excellent quality finish.

When referring to the beginning of the operation of thermal transfer tapes for ribbons, it should be noted that first the roll goes to the respective printer. Once installed, it will be arranged against another roll containing the labels to be used, whether they are made of paper, plastic, or fabric.

The work comes to an end when the ribbon runs out and the phrase "end of ribbon" appears. At this moment the machine automatically stops so that the operator can replace the roll. The printing volume is high, and a single ribbon can produce an infinite number of signs.

The performance of the speed, heat and pressure made on the label will make it possible for the necessary information to be easily captured. It should be noted that this process is simple, fast, and extremely economical for companies as logistics costs are significantly reduced.



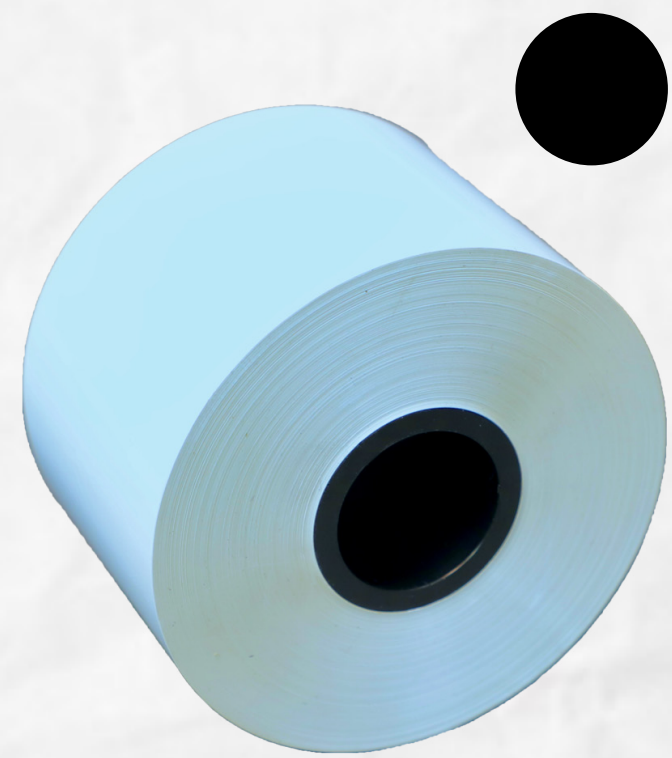
Types of ribbons most commonly used in



Large companies use ribbons according to the technical printing needs they require. For this reason, they search in the market for the options of their preference, ranging from a reasonable price to high-definition prints. The most commonly used types are as follows:

Wax Ribbon

It is the most useful due to its low price. It is recommended for use where labels with high durability and high heat exposure are not required. They are not durable for long periods and are easily erased.



Resin Ribbon

It is used in applications that need a lot of resistance and firmness for special and careful jobs. Its printing does not rub off and can be subjected to high and low temperatures, friction, and contact with chemical products without deformation.



Mixed Ribbon

It is formed by resin and wax compounds that allow a material of great performance, adhesion, and strength. It has a longer and more useful life for labels to last many years without deterioration. Its use is recommended for pharmaceutical products, chemicals, wines, and other alcohols.



The experts in ribbons

PCM is the industry leader in thermal transfer ribbon solutions for ribbons. Its excellent products are designed by professionals with high capacity and under quality, resistance, and durability standards.

Features on labels for fruits and vegetables



If you've done your weekly grocery shopping at a supermarket you may have noticed labels on everything that is available. Like every product sold in stores, labels make it easy to take inventory and speed up the checkout process when you go to the cash register. But there's more behind produce labels than just that.

Many people think it only benefits the store and does nothing for the consumer, which is wrong. Knowing what the label tells you about the produce could change your mind about which produce to carry.

What do produce labels do?

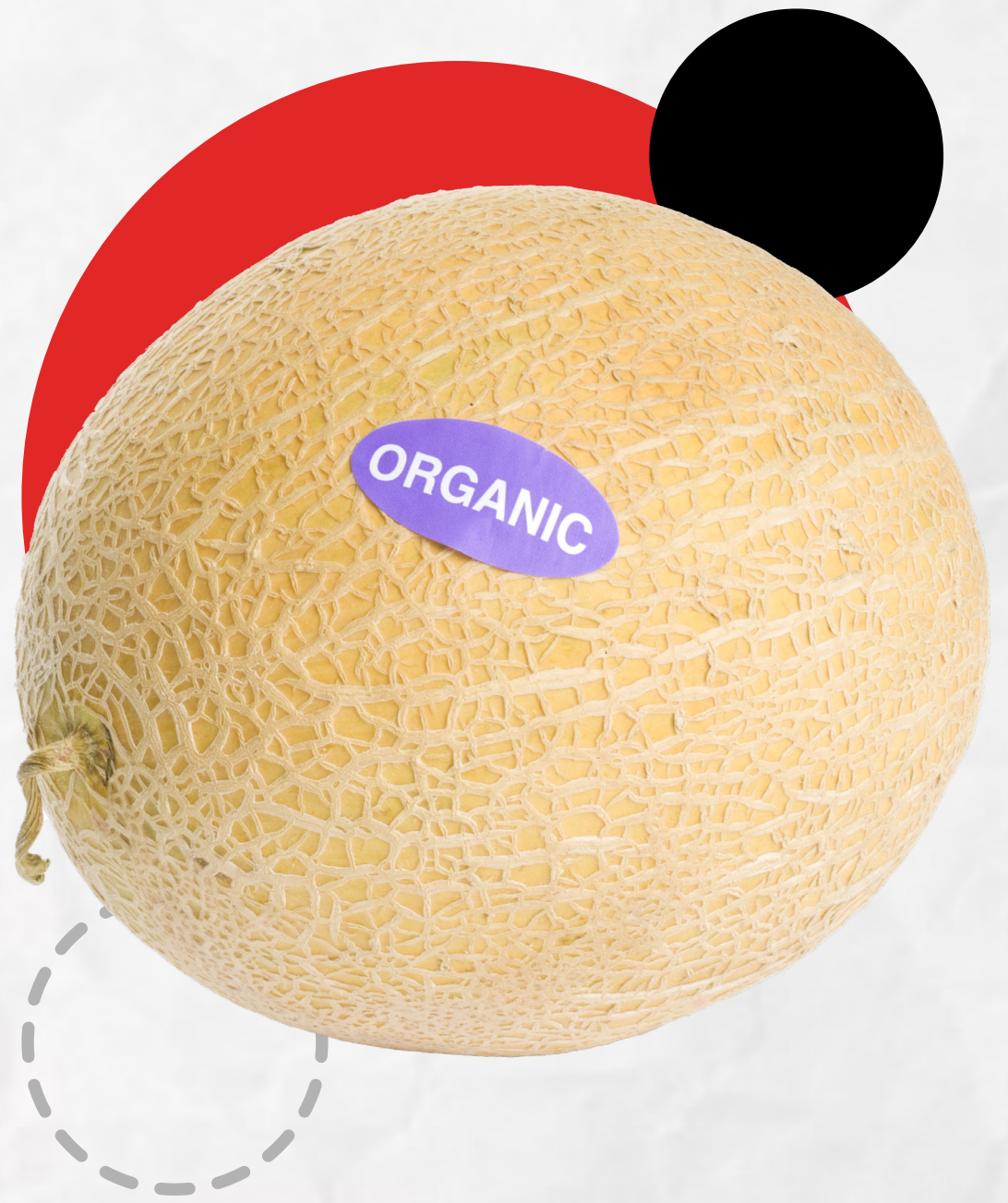


On fruit and vegetable labels, what helps the consumer the most is the PLU, which stands for Price Lookup. This is a 4-to-5-digit code that has a unique value for each product according to characteristics such as:

- **FORM OF CULTIVATION**
- **AREA WHERE IT WAS OBTAINED**
- **COLOR**
- **SHAPE**
- **SIZE**
- **WEIGHT**

In this way, just with the PLU, you can obtain detailed information about your product, for example, if an apple is of U.S. or Mexican origin, if it is completely organic or if it was somehow genetically modified, among other data.

A pear grown in a certain region will have the same PLU up to a certain weight. When it exceeds it, it will be another PLU. If it is a pear with the same weight but was grown in another area, the code changes again.



The first digit is the most relevant

There are too many PLU codes to try to learn them all. Likewise, at a glance you can know everything you need to know about a fruit or vegetable. Or well, almost everything.

One thing that affects most people is knowing how the food they are eating was grown - did they use chemicals on it, or is it completely organic? This is what the first PLU number tells us.

Traditional farming

This is the most popular form used on farms. The food is completely natural, but pesticides are used during cultivation to protect it.

These start with a 0 on the labels for fruits and vegetables. It is common in practice for this to be omitted, in which case we will go by the number of digits. If it has only 4, then it is a traditional food.

Modified foods

These are the ones that most people prefer to avoid. All product codes in this class begin with an 8.

100% ORGANIC PRODUCTION

No pesticides or other chemicals are used, everything is natural. Labels start with a 9. To certify that a crop is organic, it must pass certain tests and be certified by food agencies. All this means that the products in this category are the most expensive of the 3 categories. For example, a genetically altered banana will have the code #84011, a traditionally produced banana #4011 and an organic banana #94011.



Are labels for fruits and vegetables regulated?



The body that assigns the codes is the International Federation for Produce Standards (IFPS). Originally, their idea was to make life easier for chain stores to keep better control of their products, but over time, they adapted and also gave the consumer an opportunity to obtain information. In their official site they have a search engine that by entering the PLU code, will give you the product information. You can also search according to its characteristics, and it will give you the PLU that corresponds to that product.

No legal body ensures that all merchandise is properly labeled. Many times, labels for fruits and vegetables are not used because knowing their characteristics, some people would not buy them. And this is especially true when it comes to genetically modified foods.

This makes it quite difficult to find foods that are organic. Therefore, it is best to find chains that have gone through the certification process. Price will also be a red flag, as it should be above average for the same product.

No more PLU codes?

The main drawback of PLU codes on fruit and vegetable labels is the small number of farmers who correctly label genetically modified products. This leads to a large amount of numbers being wasted because they are not used in practice.

In one of its most recent proposals, IFPS intends to stop using the prefix 8 for this class of products. Nowadays it has not been implemented, but it is an idea that is still in the air in case the numbers run out.

As long as the world continues to connect the way it is going and food categories become more and more specific, the above will not be long in coming. Oranges grown in the United States are no longer the same as oranges grown in Mexico, Colombia, or Panama.

And to talk about countries is not even saying much. It depends on the size of the country, but on average there are at least 10 variations for each fruit. If each of those countries decided to export their goods, they would flood the market and wipe out the available fruit and vegetable labels.



IT'S TIME TO LABEL

Putting on fruit and vegetable labels is not something you can do on your own. In addition to the work involved, you do need a licensed agent to do the job. Make sure you have a reliable industry that will guarantee a job well done.

How is plastic made?



How is plastic made?



It is important to know how plastic is composed and what chemicals it contains, because this can help you understand how you can best use it. The advantage of knowing this is that it will allow you to understand how it differs from other materials.

As a result, you will be able to make better choices about which types of plastic are best suited to your needs. It will also help you understand how it behaves in the environment, as well as how best to dispose of it safely when you no longer need it.

At PCM you will find the best materials and tools made from plastic. This way, you will be sure to acquire quality products and great resistance; always at an affordable price for any need.

What is plastic?

Plastics are part of our lives. They are found in almost every product we use. The use of plastic is so widespread that it is difficult to imagine a world without it. But did you know that plastic is not just one material? It can be made of many different chemicals and materials, each with different properties and uses.

You may have heard the term “plastic” used to refer to objects or items made from a durable material. In reality, there are many types and they all have different molecular structures and properties. Depending on how the plastic is composed, it can behave differently under various conditions.

Plastic is a man-made material that has been around for over 100 years. It is made of polymers, molecules bonded together. It can be used to make many different things, such as bottles, straws, cups and toys. It can also be recycled and reused to make new products.

You can tell if something is plastic by looking closely. If you see a long word that starts with “poly” or contains the word “plastic” (such as “polyethylene”), it is probably plastic.

How is plastic made?

Understanding how plastic is made can help you make better decisions about when and where to use it. It will also allow you to educate others about what they buy.

Plastic is a type of material made from polymers. Polymers are long chains of molecules with repeating units. Plastics are made from polymers that can be molded into different shapes.

To make plastics, we start with an organic compound called a monomer, which is a small molecule made of carbon and hydrogen. These monomers are joined together to form polymers, which are long chains of molecules with repeating units.

An example would be ethylene glycol, which is a simple organic compound with two carbon atoms and two hydroxyl groups attached. Ethylene glycol is used to make polyethylene terephthalate (PET), which is used in plastic bottles and containers for food and beverages.

Features



Plastics are a versatile and economical choice for a wide range of products, from bottles to kitchenware. They are also incredibly durable, which means they don't break down easily. That's why it's important to know how plastic is composed and how it will behave in different conditions. Here are some of the most common characteristics of plastics:

FLEXIBILITY

Plastics can be flexible or rigid, depending on their composition and molecular structure. Flexible plastics tend to be more durable than rigid plastics because they can bend without cracking or breaking.

HARDNESS

The hardness of plastics depends on their molecular structure and additives such as fillers and resins. For example, polyethylene terephthalate (PET) has a much lower melting point than polycarbonate (PC). This is because PET is softer and more flexible than PC.

CHEMICAL RESISTANCE

Different types of plastics have different levels of resistance to certain chemicals:

- Some plastics are highly resistant to acids, while others are not resistant at all.
- Some can withstand exposure to extreme temperatures while others melt under intense heat.
- Some are safe for use around food, while others should never come into contact with any foodstuffs

It does not break down easily in landfills, so it can take thousands of years to dispose of. In addition, depending on how the plastic is composed, it may even contain toxic substances that can leach into food or beverages.

MELTING POINT

Plastic is also used because it has a very high melting point. This property corresponds to the temperature at which the substance changes from a solid to a liquid state.

Most plastics have a high melting point, which means that they can be heated without softening or melting. This makes them useful for many things, such as cooking utensils and food storage containers.



Uses



This material can be found in all shapes and forms, and depending on how the plastic is composed, it is used for everything. It's even used to manufacture things you use every day, like smartphones, computers and even your toothbrush.

Because plastics are so versatile, they are used in everything from household items to medical equipment. They can be used as insulation on a boat or in a house where it's cold outside; as it will allow heat not to escape through cracks in the walls or roof.

It is also used in medicine to help patients suffering from diseases such as cancer or kidney disease. For example, doctors sometimes use plastic tubes called catheters. These tools are used to drain the fluid around their patients' lungs if they are having trouble breathing.

Frequently asked questions

What is plastic?

Plastic is a man-made material that can be molded into various shapes. It is made of polymers, which are long chains of molecules. It is also called polyethylene terephthalate or PET.

What are the advantages of plastic?

Plastic has many advantages: it is lightweight, durable and flexible; it does not rust or corrode. It is easy to recycle, can be molded into any shape or size, and is inexpensive compared to other materials such as glass or metal.

Are all plastics harmful to the environment?

No, some are completely inert (they do not react with anything). Others may contain additives such as colorants and stabilizers that could leach into water supplies. These additives are often added during production to color products.

