

Guide to Protective Packaging & Void Fill

When packing goods, do you know the difference between protective packaging and void fill? Each plays an important and distinct role in securing and protecting products during shipping.



When you need to protect INSIDE the box, it's twine time.



What is void fill?

Void fill fits into gaps between a box and its contents, preventing shifting during transit. Void fill is usually made of paper, but can also consist of packing peanuts or air pillows. The type of void fill you should use depends on the fragility and packaging of the product being shipped.

What is protective packaging? Protective packaging is designed to take the impact of a fall or crush and keep products from breaking. It cushions products with multiple layers of bubble wrap or foam. This is the first line of defense in product protection before utilizing void fill.

Which packaging strategy should you use?

The right packaging strategy depends on what you are shipping, how you ship it, and other special shipping requirements. Key factors to consider are:

- Corrosion Prevention (for metals)
- Fragile Contents
- Number of Items
- Object Size and Shape
- Shipping Method and Distance
- Static Damage (for electronics)
- Temperature and Humidity Sensitivity (for food or medicine)







Many times, you will need to use both a protective packaging option and void fill. For example, if you are shipping a glass mug you need to wrap that mug in bubble wrap (protective packaging) to prevent damage. If there is empty space in the box around the mug that is surrounded by bubble wrap, you should add a void fill option to keep the mug from moving around in the box.

AP&T offers a full range of protective packaging and void fill solutions, including:

- Air Cushion Machines
- Air Pillows & Bags
- Bubble-On-Demand Systems
- Bubble Wrap & Sheets
- Custom-Molded Foam Packaging
- Custom-Molded Pulp Packaging
- Foam Cushioning

- Foam-In-Place Systems
- Packing Paper (Kraft, Newsprint, Tissue & Crinkle)
- Packing Peanuts
- Paper Void Fill Machines



Not sure what is the right solution for your packaging needs?

Contact AP&T for a FREE consultation with one of our packaging specialists.



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