

Pallet Specification Information

ISO pallets

The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) sanctions six pallet dimensions, detailed in ISO Standard 6780: Flat pallets for intercontinental materials handling—Principal dimensions and tolerances:

Dimensions, mm (W × L)	Dimensions, in (W × L)	Wasted floor, ISO container	Region most used in
1219 × 1016	48.00 × 40.00	11.7% (20 pallets in 40ft ISO)	North America
1000 × 1200	39.37 × 47.24	6.7%	Europe, Asia; similar to 48x40".
1165 × 1165	44.88 × 44.88	8.1%	Australia
1067 × 1067	42.00 × 42.00	11.5%	North America, Europe, Asia
1100 × 1100	43.30 × 43.30	14%	Asia
800 × 1200	31.50 × 47.24	15.2%	Europe; fits many doorways

North American pallets

Of the top pallets used in North America, the most commonly used by far is the Grocery Manufacturers' Association (GMA) pallet, which accounts for 30% of all new wood pallets produced in the United States. The ISO also recognizes the GMA pallet footprint as one of its six standard sizes.

Dimensions, mm (W × L)	Dimensions, in (W × L)	Production Rank	Industries Using
1219 × 1016	48 × 40	1	Grocery, many others
1067 × 1067	42 × 42	2	Telecommunications, Paint
1219 × 1219	48 × 48	3	Drums
1016 × 1219	40 × 48	4	Military, ¹¹ Cement
1219 × 1067	48 × 42	5	Chemical, Beverage
1016 × 1016	40 × 40	6	Dairy
1219 × 1143	48 × 45	7	Automotive

1118 × 1118	44 × 44	8	Drums, Chemical
914 × 914	36 × 36	9	Beverage
1219 × 914	48 × 36	10	Beverage, Shingles, Packaged Paper
889 × 1156	35 × 45.5	Unknown	Military 1/2 ISO container, fits 36" standard doors
1219 × 508	48 × 20	Unknown	Retail

European pallets

In Europe, the EURO pallet, also called a CEN pallet, is widely used in many industries. It measures 800 by 1200 by 144 mm. Manufacturers of EURO pallets must be sanctioned by the European Pallet Association (EPAL), which governs the smallest details, even which types of nails and lumber may be used. The strict standardization is based on the existence of europool pallet swap organizations - their mutual swap agreements across country boundaries does only include EURO pallets of a specific EPAL/EUR type (mostly restricted to type 1). Most freight forwarders will accept pool pallets, handling the cost clearing between sender and receiver even for international transport to countries that take part in the europool system. The ongoing harmonization of freight handling within the European Economic Area has led to a decline of the europool system. The EURO pallet does not fit efficiently within the ISO shipping container and slightly wider containers are often used for this reason.

The four common sizes of EURO pallets (alongside with ISO alternative sizes) are:

EURO pallet type	Dimensions, mm/in (W × L)	ISO pallet alternative
EUR, EUR 1	800 × 1,200 mm/31.50 × 47.24 in	ISO1, same size as EUR
EUR 2	1,200 × 1,000 mm/47.24 × 39.37 in	ISO2
EUR 3	1,000 × 1,200 mm/39.37 × 47.24 in	
EUR 6	800 × 600 mm/31.50 × 23.62 in	ISO0, half the size of EUR
	600 × 400 mm/23.62 × 15.75 in	quarter the size of EUR
	400 × 300 mm/15.75 × 11.81 in	one-eighth the size of EUR