





Protective Packaging Quick Guide

PART OF  **MACFARLANE
PACKAGING**

Packaging made **personal**



Product	Info & Examples	Advantages	Disadvantages	Best for...
Paper	 <p>Ranpak's FillPak series; Storopack's PAPERplus</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can be made from recycled materials • Lightweight and versatile • Easy to dispose of • Range of delivery systems available - from manual through to full automation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can be abrasive to some surface finishes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Void fill • Blocking and bracing • Cushioning products to absorb shock
Air bags / Inflatable	 <p>Polythene bags inflated with air via machinery. Storopack's AIRplus, Sealed Air range, Green Light Products</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost effective consumables • Full automation available • Film can be biodegradable • Consumables are compact / easy to store • Different films / cushioning types provide versatility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large hopper systems have high start-up costs • Occasional loss of air retention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General void fill, lighter protection • Blocking and bracing • Good for 3PL / ecommerce operations who need fast and efficient on demand service for pick and pack operations



Product	Info & Examples	Advantages	Disadvantages	Best for...
Foam Roll	 <p>Rolls of foam available in 1 - 4mm thickness. Standard (white foam) or antistatic (pink foam) options</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lightweight Available in antistatic finishes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bulky, harder to store 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protecting surface finishes Products requiring antistatic protection (e.g. computer components) Wrapping products
Loose foam chips	 <p>Storopack's LOOSEfill, Greenlight Eco Flo</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lightweight Easy to use - no training required Available in biodegradable options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bulky, harder to store Less favoured by end consumers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic void fill Cushioning awkwardly shaped objects



Product	Info & Examples	Advantages	Disadvantages	Best for...
Bubble wrap	 <p>Sealed Air E200, economy bubble</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lightweight • Available in antistatic finishes • Various lengths available. • Two bubble sizes available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bulky, harder to store 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Light protection • Wrapping products
Instant foam	 <p>Sealed Air's Instapack, Storopack's FOAMplus</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moulds to product • No product migration • Can be fully automated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hard to recycle • Chemical based • Requires safety equipment to use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cushioning • Absorbing impact



Product	Info & Examples	Advantages	Disadvantages	Best for...
<p>Airsac by Network Packaging</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lightweight • Minimal storage needed (flat before inflation) • Recyclable and reusable • Heavier duty film with nylon, greater air retention ☐ • Moulds to product • Can reduce pack size ☐ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manual and semi-auto inflation only, full automation not yet available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cushioning☐ / Absorbing impact • Fragile and breakable goods • Blocking and bracing
<p>Polystyrene</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lightweight • Can provide insulation • Can be moulded to specific products ☐ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hard to recycle • Bulky, harder to store • Less favourable with end users ☐ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blocking and bracing • ☐Fragile and breakable goods