

Model Bale Specifications: PET Thermoforms

This model is not meant to replace the specifications of individual buyers, many of whom may have different allowables in terms of contents and bale sizes. Rather, it is meant to provide a benchmark to suppliers.

Any whole polyethylene terephthalate (PET) package labeled with the ASTM D7611 “#1, PET or PETE” resin identification code, not including bottles and jars, but including and not limited to egg cartons, baskets, clamshell containers, cups, lids, cake domes, covers, blister pack without paperboard backing, tubs, deli containers, trays and folded PET sheet containers. All packages should be free of contents or free flowing liquids and rinsed. Closures (caps, lids, and rings) may be included. Post-consumer is defined as “used for its intended purpose and otherwise directed to disposal”.

ALLOWABLE LEVELS OF CONTAMINANTS: Total contaminants should not exceed 5% by weight. No more than 2% by weight of any of following individual contaminants will be allowed:

- Aluminum
- Metal containers or cans
- Loose paper or cardboard
- Polystyrene
- PLA
- PVC
- PETG
- Liquid residues, primarily water (2% maximum allowed).

THE FOLLOWING CONTAMINANTS ARE NOT ALLOWED AT ANY LEVEL:

-) Any plastic bags or plastic film
-) Wood, glass, oils and grease
-) Rocks, stones, mud, dirt
-) Medical and hazardous waste
-) Items containing degradable additives

IMPORTANT: Any plastic container that previously contained any hazardous or potentially hazardous material, including needles, should be strictly avoided. Many purchasers will reject an entire load if any of the above materials are found and will return them at the supplier’s expense.

Bale Size/Minimum Shipping Weight/ Tare Weight: Approximately 30"x42"x 48" or 30"x48"x 60". Bale sizes should allow a minimum of 35,000 pounds to be shipped on 48 foot trailer. Individual companies may apply price deductions for shipments that do not meet their minimum weight requirements. A tare weight of 8 pounds per bale may be taken from the gross weight.

Bale Density: 15-17 lbs/ft³

Density must not exceed 17 pounds per cubic foot

Bale Integrity: Bale integrity must be maintained throughout loading, shipping, unloading and storage.

Bale Wire: Bales should be held together with 10-12 gauge, noncorrosive galvanized metal wire, with all bale wires wrapped in one direction (crisscrossing or double strapping should be preapproved by the buyer before shipping). A minimum number of bale wires should be used to maintain bale integrity. This number will vary with bale size and density.

Storage: Bales should be stored, with the bottom bale on a pallet, indoors or covered outdoors. Material must not be stored outdoors uncovered for a period exceeding two (2) weeks to prevent UV degradation from direct sunlight and moisture contamination.