



THE PALLET SYSTEM.

EPAL QUALITY CLASSIFICATION

Recommendations for the use and exchange of EPAL Euro pallets

The EPAL Quality Classification provides non-binding recommendations and serves to optimise the use and exchange of EPAL Euro pallets. It is only to be used if there is mutual agreement between the companies involved (exchange, purchase or supply of EPAL Euro pallets). In this case, the EPAL Quality Classification supplements the EPAL Terms of Exchange and offers an option of agreeing to supply or exchange EPAL Euro pallets of a specific class.

If there is no agreement to use the EPAL Quality Classification, only the EPAL Terms of Exchange apply (unrestricted exchangeability of new and used EPAL Euro pallets of classes A, B and C).



THE PALLET SYSTEM.

EPAL TERMS OF EXCHANGE

Conditions for exchanging EPAL Euro pallets

The EPAL Terms of Exchange are binding.

EPAL Euro pallets are exchangeable if there is no significant damage or any faults that result in loss of usability. Damage or faults that result in loss of usability also result in loss of exchangeability.

The EPAL Terms of Exchange can be supplemented by the EPAL Quality Classification whereby the companies involved in the exchange, purchase or supply of EPAL Euro pallets mutually agree to use the EPAL Quality Classification as well as to exchange or supply EPAL Euro pallets of a specific class.

NEW

Characteristics:

- ISPM 15 / IPPC
- chamber-dried
- 800 x 1,200 x 144 mm
- guaranteed nominal load: 1,500 kg
- max. 22% residual moisture content

Rough-sawn, consistent and repetitive nail positioning.

EPAL marking on all 4 corner blocks.

No signs of use, light-coloured wood.

All bottom boards are chamfered on both sides.

All 4 corners of the pallet are chamfered at an angle of 45°.

IPPC marking, licence number-year-month, control staple.



*MCH = suitable for use in machines, with conveyor technology and high-bay racking in accordance with the GS1 DACH recommendation "Settings for monitoring in automated conveying and warehouse systems"

MCH-SUITABILITY*



CLASS A

Characteristics:

- pallet has already been used
- mainly light coloured
- NOTE: Lightness alone is not a guarantee of a particular quality class. The criteria for the other classes must also always be checked.
- surface moisture due to use / environment is permitted

No adhesions e.g. cardboard, foil, tapes, labels. Some residue permitted.

At least one EPAL marking must be legible on each side.

Signs of use. No dirt or contamination which may be transferred to the payload.

Some splitting permitted in the wood.

Inspection criteria: No twisted blocks, fork clearance, legs firmly attached.

May have been repaired. Repair marking nail as proof of licensed repair.

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MCH-SUITABILITY*



CLASS B

Characteristics:

- pallet has already been used
- mainly dark coloured
- surface moisture due to use / environment is permitted

No adhesions e.g. cardboard, foil, tapes, labels. Some residue permitted.

At least one EPAL marking must be legible on each side.

Signs of use. No dirt or contamination which may be transferred to the payload.

Some splitting permitted in the wood.

Inspection criteria: No twisted blocks, fork clearance, legs firmly attached.

May have been repaired. Repair marking nail as proof of licensed repair.

*MCH = suitable for use in machines, with conveyor technology and high-bay racking in accordance with the GS1 DACH recommendation "Settings for monitoring in automated conveying and warehouse systems"

MCH-SUITABILITY*



CLASS C

Characteristics:

- pallet has already been used
- mainly dark coloured
- surface moisture due to use / environment is permitted

Adhesions, e.g. cardboard, foil, tapes, labels permitted. After removal, a higher classification is possible.

At least one EPAL marking must be legible on each side.

Signs of heavy use. No dirt or contamination which may be transferred to the payload.

Splitting permitted in the wood.

Slightly twisted blocks (≤ 1 cm protrusion).

May have been repaired. Repair marking nail as proof of licensed repair.

NOTE: Max. 1 nail shank visible per component, in total max. 2 nail shanks per pallet. The nail tips must not be visible or exposed.



NOT FIT FOR USE

Pallets exhibiting these faults must not be used in the open pallet exchange pool without having been repaired.

According to the EPAL Terms of Exchange, EPAL Euro pallets are not exchangeable if damage or faults result in loss of usability.

Typical damage and faults that result in loss of exchangeability and usability are shown here and in the EPAL Terms of Exchange.

Restoration of exchangeability

To restore exchangeability, damaged EPAL Euro pallets must be repaired by an EPAL-licensed repair company.



Missing component



Unacceptable component that does not comply with the EPAL Technical Regulations, e.g. undersized, rotten, wane



Broken crossways, partly or completely broken board



Twisted block > approx. 1 cm protrusion



Visible nail tips or more than 2 nail shanks per pallet



Dirt or contamination which may be transferred to the payload, e.g. paint, oil, odour, mould, damp stains, etc.



Repair not to specifications



No legible EPAL markings

UNSORTED

Mixed pallets of all kinds, which are exchanged one-to-one by market players. Criteria and permitted mix are agreed individually by the exchange/contractual partners.



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TYPICAL DAMAGE AND FAULTS THAT RESULT IN LOSS OF EXCHANGEABILITY AND USABILITY:

A board is missing in part or in full.



A board is broken or split in such a way that more than one nail shank is visible.



A board is broken crossways or at an angle.



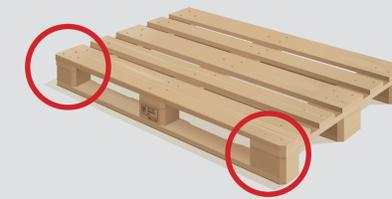
A block is missing or split in such a way that more than one nail shank is visible.



One block is twisted and protrudes more than 1 cm beyond the outer edge of the pallet.



EPAL marking is missing on both corner blocks of one long side.



Further criteria for loss of exchangeability:

The load bearing capacity is no longer guaranteed (e.g. rotten or decayed boards, severe breakages or splits). Some components are obviously unacceptable (e.g. boards too thin, blocks too narrow). Several blocks exhibit severe breakages or splits. Severe soiling of the pallet may lead to contamination of the payload.

Restoration of exchangeability

To restore exchangeability, damaged EPAL Euro pallets must be repaired by an EPAL-licensed repair company. A list of EPAL-licensed repair companies is available on the EPAL website (www.epal.eu | licensee search).



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