

Standard pallet sizes: dimensions, weights and load limits

The seven pallet footprints that cover nearly all North American and international freight. All figures in inches unless noted.

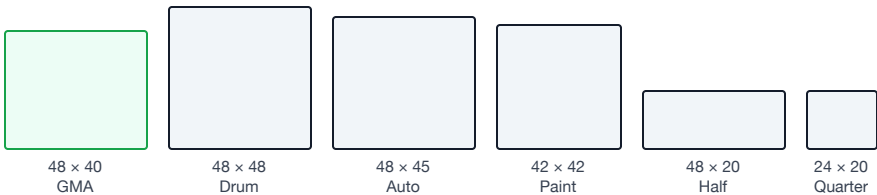
48 × 40

The US standard is the 48 × 40 GMA pallet.

Empty weight 33–48 lbs · dynamic load 2,500–4,600 lbs · static load 5,000–7,500 lbs · two fork pockets, stringer construction.
Nearly every US carrier, warehouse and retailer is built around this footprint.

PALLET TYPE	DIMENSIONS (IN)	METRIC	EMPTY WEIGHT	DYNAMIC LOAD	STATIC LOAD	TYPICAL USE
GMA (US standard)	48 × 40	121.9 × 101.6 cm	33–48 lbs	2,500–4,600 lbs	5,000–7,500 lbs	Default North American freight pallet
EUR / EPAL	47.24 × 31.50	1200 × 800 mm	~55 lbs	~3,300 lbs	up to 8,800 lbs	European logistics, international shipping
Drum / chemical	48 × 48	121.9 × 121.9 cm	By material	3,500–4,600 lbs	By material	Drums, barrels, beverages, petroleum
Automotive	48 × 45	121.9 × 114.3 cm	By material	2,500–4,600 lbs	By material	Engine blocks, transmissions, auto components
Paint / telecom	42 × 42	106.7 × 106.7 cm	By material	2,500–4,600 lbs	By material	Paint, chemical, telecom
Half pallet	48 × 20	121.9 × 50.8 cm	By material	2,000–2,500 lbs	By material	Retail display, aisle end caps
Quarter pallet	24 × 20	61 × 50.8 cm	By material	500–1,000 lbs	By material	Club stores, grocery aisle displays

Footprints to scale



Cases per 48 × 40 pallet (Ti × Hi)

CARTON (L × W × H)	PER LAYER	LAYERS	CASES	LOAD HEIGHT
12 × 10 × 10 in (small)	16	5	80	~50 in
16 × 12 × 12 in (medium)	9	4	36	~48 in
20 × 16 × 16 in (large)	6	3	18	~48 in

How many 48 × 40 pallets fit in a trailer or truck

26 pallets

A 53-foot dry van fits **26** standard 48 × 40 pallets in a single layer, loaded two wide across the 98.5-inch interior — **52** double-stacked when each pallet plus load stays under 48 to 52 inches tall. A 26-foot box truck carries **1 to 12** pallets with a liftgate; a cargo van carries **up to 3**.