

PROVIDING RECYCLED PALLET SOLUTIONS SINCE THE 1980'S

PALLET GRADING GUIDE

RELIABLE 48X40 RECYCLED PALLET STANDARDS YOU CAN TRUST

PRESENTED BY **MILLWOOD**[™]
INCORPORATED

BUILT TO SERVE. BUILT TO LAST.

For decades, the 48×40 pallet has been the backbone of American shipping. In the 1960s, the Grocery Manufacturers Association (GMA) helped unify supply chains by promoting a single, standardized pallet footprint. That standard — 48 inches by 40 inches — allowed manufacturers, warehouses, and carriers to work together more efficiently.

Over time, that once-clear standard became blurred. Regional recycling and repair practices created wide variations in quality and performance. What was once a common language in logistics became a patchwork of interpretations.

Millwood entered the recycled-pallet industry in the 1980s, long before sustainability became a buzzword. We saw early that customers didn't just need pallets — they needed partners who could ensure consistency, safety, and supply continuity. That practical commitment to solving customer problems grew into one of the most advanced pallet recycling and repair networks in the nation.

Today, Millwood continues the GMA legacy by pairing custom engineering capability with repeatable national standards.

Our approach combines decades of field experience with modern technology — automated inspection, data-backed grading, and performance testing through our Packaging Science Lab.

The result is simple: reliable recycled pallets that perform predictably across every industry we serve.

Our mission is to preserve the legacy of the GMA pallet while carrying the standard forward into a new era of precision, sustainability, and stewardship.

PRESERVING A LEGACY: ADVANCING A STANDARD

The GMA 48×40 pallet established the foundation for efficient freight movement in the U.S. Millwood honors that history by aligning with its original intent — **uniform performance and interchangeability** — while improving the consistency, strength, and verification of every pallet we produce.

Our Premium A1, Grade A, and Grade B classifications directly correlate to the legacy GMA 1A, 1, and 2 guidelines, but are strengthened through automation, inspection, and documentation across Millwood’s nationwide network.

Whether your operation moves retail goods, heavy industrial products, or export shipments, Millwood’s verified grading process ensures the same dependable results - every time, everywhere.

Millwood’s verified grading system aligns with the original GMA standards while introducing a new level of precision and repeatability for modern supply chains.

Grade/Details	Condition	Stringer	Deckboard	Appearance	Squareness	Load Rating
GMA 1A	Lightly used, no repairs	All solid stringers	≥9/1" deckboards	Bright / clean	-	~2,500 - 4,600 lbs
PREMIUM A1	Nearly new; verified no repairs ✓	Solid only; machine-checked tolerances ✓	≥9/16" deckboards; ≥3½" gaps ✓	≥ 60% bright; no tar or gaps	≤1" out of square ✓	Verified load rating by inspection ✓
GMA 1	Clean; minor repairs	May include mending plates	7 top / 5 bottom	Mixed bright & gray	-	~2,500 - 4,600 lbs
Grade 1A	Clean; minor mending repairs ✓	Solid or plated; no companion stringers ✓	≥ 3½" gaps; consistent alignment	Clean; no heavy staining ✓	≤1" out of square ✓	Verified rating by inspection ✓
GMA 2	Repaired; multiple uses	Companion stringers common	Variable patterns	Mixed / weathered	-	Variable by repair quality
Grade B	Repaired with companion stringers or plugs ✓	Solid or repaired; plugs > 1 ¼" thick ✓	≥ 4" gaps; industrial tolerance ✓	Mixed color; cosmetic wear acceptable ✓	≤1" out of square ✓	Verified for one- way industrial use ✓

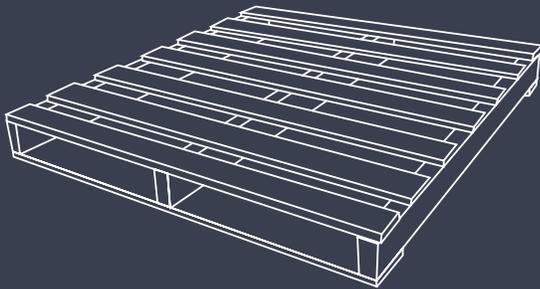
Verified through Millwood’s Automated Repair and Inspection Network.

PREMIUM A1 RECYCLED PALLET

✓ Nearly new appearance and maximum reuse potential.



Premium A1 pallets represent the highest standard in recycled pallet performance. Designed for food, beverage, and retail environments where cleanliness and presentation matter, A1 pallets feature only solid stringers and tightly spaced deckboards with minimal cosmetic wear.



Each pallet is inspected and verified through Millwood's automated repair lines for dimensional accuracy, load capacity, and squareness tolerance. They deliver the appearance of a new pallet with the sustainability and cost advantages of a recycled one — ideal for closed-loop or high-visibility supply chains.

Use Cases:



Food and beverage manufacturing



Retail and grocery distribution



Pharmaceutical and consumer packaged goods



Multi-cycle reuse programs

GRADE A RECYCLED PALLET

✓ **Balanced durability for everyday operations.**



Grade A pallets provide reliable, consistent strength for warehouse and distribution environments that prioritize efficiency. Each pallet may include solid or plated stringers but is free from companion repairs. Deckboards are uniform and tightly spaced for balanced load distribution.

Grade A offers a practical balance between strength, sustainability, and cost — the workhorse standard for multi-trip distribution and mid-volume supply chains.

Use Cases:



General warehousing and cross-dock operations



Packaged foods, beverage, and household goods



Automated or semi-automated handling environments

GRADE B RECYCLED PALLET

✓ Economical strength for industrial and one-way use.



Grade B pallets deliver dependable strength for heavy or single-use shipments. Constructed with repaired stringers or plugs greater than 1¼", they balance cost efficiency with structural integrity. While cosmetic wear is visible, every pallet is inspected and verified for safe, reliable handling.

Grade B is the ideal solution for industrial, export, or construction environments where functional performance matters more than appearance.

Use Cases:



Industrial equipment and building materials



Export and one-way equipments



Manufacturing and construction sites

CONFIDENCE BUILT THROUGH **SURE**

✓ **Economical strength for industrial and one-way use.**

Every pallet we design, repair, and deliver follows the same guiding process — our SURE Framework:



This process ensures that every Millwood solution — from custom-engineered designs to recycled pallet programs — builds measurable confidence in your supply chain. It's how we serve, and it's how we've done business since the beginning.



Connect with a Millwood pallet expert
or request your 48×40 evaluation.