

BS 1133 SECTION 8: Wooden Boxes, Cases and Crates

Guidance for manufacturers and users of wooden boxes, cases and crates for industrial applications. Contains an in depth treatment of wood species, sheet materials and fastenings together with guidance on design including wire bound boxes and cases.

BS 1133-8:1991

ISBN: 0 580 19603 8

Publication Date: 29/11/91

Pages: 92

Replaces: BS 1133-8:1981

To order this standard you can search the internet for the following information. The standard is copyright and is available for purchase from the [BSi Group's online store](#).

BE SURE TO ORDER SECTION 8 which is a general packaging specification that includes many sections (volumes).

Here are Product Details as of October 2009

Standard Number:	BS 1133-8:1991
Confirm Date:	01 August 2007
Cross References:	BS 373, BS 1133:Sections 1 to 3, BS 1133:Section 6, BS 1133:Subsection 7.5, BS 1133:Section 15, BS 1133:Section 19, BS 1142, BS 1202:Part 1, BS 2629:Part 1, BS 2770, BS 2837, BS 4471, BS 4826:Part 3, BS 4826:Part 7, BS 4826:Part 9, BS 4853, BS 4894, BS 4978, BS 5268:Part 2, BS 5450, BS 6566, BS 6975, BS 7195, BS 7359, NBS PS 1-83, NBS PS 20-70, NBS PS 51-71, CSA 0121, CSA 0141, CSA 0151, NEN 3278, 77/93/EEC, Merchant Shipping (Dangerous Goods) Regulations 1981, Air Navigation (Dangerous Goods) (Amendment) Regulations 1984, Classification, Packaging and Labeling of Dangerous Substances Regulations 1984
Replaces:	BS 1133:Section 8:1981
Supersedes Draft:	88/42371 DC
Descriptors:	Boxes, Packages, Packaging, Containers, Packing cases, Cases, Crates, Wood, Plywood, Industrial, Sawn timber, Softwoods, Hardwoods, Strength of materials, Design, Woodbased sheet materials, Grades (quality), Moisture, Wood preservatives, Density, Fasteners, Straps, Nailing, Stapling, Strength of materials, Materials handling components, Safe working load, Graphic symbols, Battens, Bulk storage containers
ICS:	55.160 (Cases. Boxes. Crates)
Title in French:	Code d'emballage. Caisses à panneaux pleins et à claires-voies
Title in German:	Verpackung. Kisten, Kaesten und Steigen aus Holz
Committee:	PKW/0
Format:	A4
Delivery:	YES
Price:	£ 168.00

OVERVIEW OF BS 1133 SECTION 8 FROM A UNITED STATES PERSPECTIVE

Unlike United States wood shipping container standards, the BS 1133 Section 8 is a single comprehensive standard for the design and manufacturing of wood crates and cases (boxes). Where US Handbooks typically cover concepts and guidelines and US Specifications dictate specific manufacturing parameters, this British Standard is a combination of both.

US crate manufacturing standards were spawned from US Department of Agriculture (USDA), Forest Products Laboratory. USDA books and manuals typically contained drawings and mathematical formulas to guide you in the process.

BS 1133 covers most, if not all aspects of transport packaging including protection of food products; protection from metal corrosion; wrapping papers; bags and envelopes; corrugated paper cartons; cans; drums; strapping; glass containers; plastic containers; desiccants; plastic films and much more.

Section 8 specifically covers wood containers used for the transportation and storage of goods. Unlike any current ASTM, US government or US military standards, the document covers both wooden crates AND cases (boxes). Between some in the US there is a fierce debate concerning what is a crate and what is a box, and while they can both be defined in a vacuum, the commercial crating industry often constructs hybrids which are a combination of each.

Just as much of the contents of the ASTM wood packaging standards can be found in the older, original US government standards, you will also find similar information in the US standards at the [WoodenCRATES.org standards page](http://WoodenCRATES.org/standards/page).

The major benefit of the BS 1133 standard over the others is its' density. In only 92 pages, it covers much, if not all that someone new to crating would need to know to get started. The US and ASTM standards are painfully details and convoluted requiring one to cross-reference documents in a never ending chain.

While the technical aspects of crating are often underestimated, the basics of crating are just that... basic, and for most people, there's no reason to get into specifics concerning the shape and composition of nail when you can simply go to your local hardware store and purchase a nail with reasonable confidence that what-you-see-is-what-you-need.

Since wood box and crate manufacturing has changed very little since the 1920s, many of the requirements that had to be specified back then, have since become standard. To build basic wood boxes or cases, you can typically purchase the materials from any local source with comfort that they will meet your needs.

An exception may be if you purchase materials or fasteners from emerging countries such as China, Russia, Brazil or India, or from other lesser developed countries around the world.

United States military standards, government standards and other US documents are generally broken into the following categories:

- Heavy duty wood skids
- Wood crates
- Wood boxes (cases)
- Wire-bound wood boxes
- Pallets

In addition to these standards and documents, there are others that cover packaging as well as handbooks that discuss general concepts of packing and blocking-and-bracing.

BS 1133 covers the basics of all of these areas of container design and packing as they related to wood containers (pallets are covered to the extent that they are used as a container base).

Much of what is contained in the BS 1133 standard is available for free on the WoodenCRATES.org standards page but we feel that as of this writing, the actual BS 1133 document allows for the simplest understanding of wood transport container construction. **If you are new to crating, we recommend that you purchase this standard.**