



## PRODUCT PACKAGING COMPLIANCE MANUAL

The definitive, in-depth standard for all product packaging specifications and guidelines.

### Flier 1 PACKAGING MATERIALS: ESSENTIAL COMPLIANCE CHECK

**Audience:** Design, Sourcing, R&D, Quality Control

This flier summarizes the mandatory legal requirements for all packaging materials. Failure to comply is a high-risk violation that can lead to product destruction or recalls.

#### **1. THE ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS (The "Essential 3")**

**All packaging must be designed and used to meet these foundational criteria:**

Goal	Requirement	Compliance Check
<b>Minimum Use</b>	<b>Volume &amp; Weight:</b> Packaging size and weight must be the absolute minimum necessary to ensure product safety, hygiene, and consumer acceptance.	Avoids excessive packaging fines.
<b>End-of-Life Plan</b>	<b>Recoverability:</b> Packaging must be designed to be either reusable, recyclable, or recoverable (e.g., energy recovery) at the end of its life.	Meets sustainability and EPR mandates.
<b>Substance Control</b>	<b>Toxin Reduction:</b> The presence of noxious or hazardous substances must be minimized to reduce environmental impact from waste (ash, leachate).	Protects human health and the environment.



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### 2. BANNED & RESTRICTED SUBSTANCES (Zero-Tolerance Policy)

The use of any of the following is highly restricted or prohibited. Sourcing must confirm compliance with documentation.

→ Heavy Metals Limit (Total  $\leq$  100 ppm)

Heavy Metals to Track	Symbol
Lead	Pb
Cadmium	Cd
Mercury	Hg
Hexavalent Chromium	Cr6+

**ACTION:** Obtain and retain a Certificate of Compliance () from your supplier for every component confirming this limit is met.

→ Banned & High-Risk Chemicals

Chemical Class	Requirement
<b>PFAS</b> (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances)	Strictly <b>BANNED</b> in food-contact packaging. Must be certified as "Intentionally Added PFAS-Free."
<b>PVC</b> (Polyvinyl Chloride)	Strictly <b>RESTRICTED</b> and discouraged for use in packaging due to environmental and disposal concerns. Use approved alternatives (PET,HDPE).
<b>BPA</b> (Bisphenol A)	<b>BANNED</b> in packaging for sensitive products (e.g., infant formula, baby food). Check specific product regulations.



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### 3. FOOD CONTACT MATERIALS (FCM) SAFETY CHECK

For any packaging that touches the product (Primary Packaging):

- **The Law:** The material must **NOT** cause any substances to migrate into the product that could:
  - Endanger human health.
  - Change the composition or quality of the product.
  - Degrade the product's taste or smell (sensory characteristics).
- **ACTION:** All Primary Packaging must use pre-approved, certified **Food Contact Materials (FCMs)** tested against relevant migration limits.

FOR FULL DETAILS, TESTING LOGS, AND DEROGATIONS, REFER TO THE:  
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<https://www.packmentor.co.uk/packmentor-resource-hub>

