



Comparing Strapping System Guide

Choosing the right strapping for your application is very important. The concern must always be whether the strapping material will keep the load safe and in good condition to its final destination, cost is a relative minor consideration comparing to the cost of the load contents.

STEEL	PET - POLYESTER	POLY - POLYPROPELENE
Strongest and heaviest duty Highest break strain weight	Medium to heavy-duty load	Light- to medium-duty strapping,
Recommended for -Heavy and stable loads -Long travel times and multiple loading/unloading operations. -If product is sharp or hot.	Recommended for -Light and unstable loads -Loads susceptible to devaluation or ruin from abrasions, scratches, etc. -Rigid loads -Breaking load from 150-1100kg	Recommended for -Product weight is less than 2 tons -Holding tension requires is less than 4000Newtons -Breaking load from 50-600kg
High strength, low elongation (stretch)	High elongation (stretch) and elongation recovery, but a low retained tension (potential to split)	Low tensile strength
Best uses for -Heavy loads such as construction materials, machinery and fixing heavy items to pallets -Cross-country shipping for its resistance to strain and the outside elements. -Steel coils -Bundling metals -Baling wire -Secure Closure of Metal Containers -Railroad Shipping	Best uses for -Heavy applications, such as construction materials, crates -Metals -Lumber -Pallets of Bottles and Cans -Bricks -Tiles	Best uses for -Baling light materials such as cardboard and plastics, papers -Appliances -Millwork (moldings, banisters, etc.) -Flooring (hardwoods, laminates) -Clothing -Foods distribution centers that supply grocery stores with meats, produce, and frozen food packers -Pharmaceutical -Hay baling
	Mostly created from recycled materials. #1 Recyclable	#5 Recyclable
Safer to use on loads that have sharp edges		
	Not suitable for -Use on sharp edges	No suitable for -Heavy materials such as brick and block -Pallet loads that shift during transport -Use on sharp edges

STEEL		PET - POLYESTER		POLY - POLYPROPELENE	
PROS	CONS	PROS	CONS	PROS	CONS
Resistant to stretching to retain tension	Poor recovery Cut under tension	Can handle heavy loads and absorb a high amount of energy without breaking or elongating, under tension, which help straps stay tight and absorb impacts without breaking. Safer when cut under tension. Good memory that retains tension and continue to securely hold a load even after movement or impact.		Flexible. Good impact resistance and retained tension even loads move or shrink	Loses 50% of its tension within two hours of being applied. Poor memory and will not recover its original dimensions when placed under additional tension. Stretches around 25% when applying, but it recovers about 10% back shortly after, when package / pallet settles, the strap will retain some tension.
Heat, temperature changes & UV resistant highly durable and resistant to environmental extremes	Can rust and stain products when exposed to elements. Some types of steel strapping are coated in zinc or painted to provide resistance to rust and corrosion, although this can still be a problem if used for a long period of time.	Resistant to rust or stain Resist to high degree environment influences		Resistant to rust Highly water-resistant	Poor UV resistance should be avoided for outdoor storage.
	Some safety issues due to their steel edges.	No sharp edges so it reduces indentation at unprotected package corners, easy to apply		No sharp edges so it reduces indentation at unprotected package corners, easy to apply	
		Can be used with manual tools and automatic or semi-automatic tools and machines.		can be used manually with buckles, manual tools and automatic or semi-automatic tools and machines.	

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