

# **Transforming Waste into Value: Sustainable Packaging from Recycled Materials**



**MAJOR PROJECT REPORT**

**SEMESTER-2**

**FOUR-YEAR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME**

**(DESIGN YOUR DEGREE)**

**SUBMITTED TO**

**UNIVERSITY OF JAMMU, JAMMU**

**SUBMITTED BY THE TEAM: SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING**

<b>TEAM MEMBERS</b>	<b>ROLL NO.</b>
---------------------	-----------------

Gourav Sharma	DYD-23-06
---------------	-----------

Ishaan Uppal	DYD-23-08
--------------	-----------

Malhar Khadyal	DYD-23-10
----------------	-----------

Pawandeep Singh	DYD-23-15
-----------------	-----------

Suhani Behl	DYD-23-20
-------------	-----------

Vidhita Arora	DYD-23-22
---------------	-----------

**UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF**

**Dr. Pallavi Sachdeva and Dr. Sunil Kumar**

**Submitted on: \_\_\_\_ September, 2024**

## **CERTIFICATE**

The work embodied in this report entitled “**Transforming Waste into Value: Sustainable Packaging from Recycled Materials**” has been done by Team Sustainable packaging including group members- Gourav Sharma, Ishaan Uppal, Malhar Khadyal, Pawandeep Singh, Suhani Behl and Vidhita Arora as a Major Project for Semester 2 of Four-Year Undergraduate Programme (Design Your Degree). This work was carried out under the guidance of Mentor Dr. Pallavi Sachdeva and Dr. Sunil Kumar Bhoulgal for the partial fulfilment for the award of the Design Your Degree, Four Year Undergraduate Programme, University of Jammu, Jammu and Kashmir. This project report has not been submitted anywhere else.

Signature of Students:

Signature of Mentor:

Prof. Alka Sharma

Director, SIIEDC, University of Jammu

1. Dr. Pallavi Sachdeva

2. Dr. Sunil Kumar

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

We avail this opportunity to acknowledge all those who helped and guided us during the course of our work. First and foremost, we thank Almighty God from the depth of our heart for generating enthusiasm and granting our spiritual strength to successfully pass through this challenge. Words are too meager to express our esteem indebtedness and whole hearted sense of gratitude towards our mentor Dr. Pallavi Sachdeva, Department of Lifelong Learning and Dr. Sunil Kumar Bhogal, Department of Statistics, University of Jammu, Jammu. It is our pleasure beyond words to express our deep sense of feelings for their inspiring guidance, generous encouragement and well versed advice. They provided us undaunted encouragement and support in spite of their busy schedules. Really, fortunate we are and we feel extremely honoured for the opportunity conferred upon us to work under their perpetual motivation.

We are extremely fortunate for having an opportunity to express our heartiest gratitude to Prof. Alka Sharma, Director of SIIEDC (Design your Degree), University of Jammu, Jammu and member of advisory committee for her valuable advice and generous help and providing us all the necessary facilities from the department. We are highly thankful to all respected mentors for their immense help during the conduct of this major project. The words are small trophies to express our feelings of affection and indebtedness to our friends who helped us throughout the major project, whose excellent company, affection and co-operation helped us in carrying out our research work with joy and happiness.

We acknowledge all the people, mentioned or not mentioned here, who have silently wished and gave fruitful suggestions and helped us in achieving the present goal.

## **ABSTRACT**

This report explores the innovative transformation of waste materials into sustainable packaging solutions. It examines the potential of repurposing old books, used cardboard and unwearable clothes to address the environmental issues associated with conventional packaging. By focusing on these waste materials, the study aims to create packaging that not only reduces waste but also minimizes environmental challenges, contributing to a circular economy. The report provides a detailed analysis of various recycling and upcycling methods, demonstrating how everyday waste can be converted into valuable and eco-friendly packaging alternatives. It evaluates the effectiveness of these methods in terms of reducing carbon footprints, conserving resources and decreasing environmental impact. The findings highlight the practicality and sustainability of using recycled materials for packaging, offering a viable alternative to traditional packaging options. This approach not only supports environmental sustainability but also aligns with the growing demand for greener packaging solutions. The report underscores the importance of innovation in waste management and its role in fostering a more sustainable and circular economy.

## **INDEX**

<b>CHAPTER NO.</b>	<b>CHAPTER NAME</b>	<b>PAGE NO.</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1-14</b>
1.1	Packaging	1
1.2	Packaging Types	1-2
1.3	Types of Packaging Materials	2-3
1.4	Application areas of data packaging	3-6
1.5	Importance of Packaging for the buyer	7
1.6	Importance of Packaging for the seller	7
1.7	History of Packaging and its Design	7-10
1.8	Rationale of Design	10-14
1.9	Objectives	14
<b>2</b>	<b>Methodology</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Existence Packaging</b>	<b>17-26</b>
3.1	Current Design of Packaging	17-19
3.2	Rationale of Design	19
3.3	Environmental impact of packaging	20
3.4	Sustainable Packaging	21-23
3.5	What are Sustainable Packaging Designs?	23
3.6	Best Materials for Sustainable Packaging Designs	23-25
3.7	Benefits of sustainable packaging designs	25-26
3.8	Need for Sustainable Packaging Design	26
<b>4</b>	<b>Eco-Friendly Packaging Solutions</b>	<b>27-32</b>
4.1	Solutions	27-30
4.2	Future scope and recommendations	30-32



## CHAPTER-1

### INTRODUCTION

---

#### 1.1 Packaging

The packaging is a process of confining or safeguarding a product with a container to facilitate its distribution, identification, storage, promotion and use. It also refers to the material used to wrap and enclose the product.

Packaging plays a crucial role from the time a product is developed to the time a product is fully consumed. The functions of packaging include:

1. **Contains the product:** This means the packaging encloses the product, holding it together and keeping it in place. It ensures that the product is properly stored within the packaging, making it easy to handle, transport and display.
2. **Protects the product:** Packaging shields the product from contamination and damage throughout storage, transportation and use, preserving its quality, characteristics and other attributes.
3. **Makes the product shine out and stand out:** The packaging helps the customer recognize the product and tell it apart from other products. Additionally, eye-catching packages have the ability to stand out and draw clients in.
4. **Convenience for the customer:** Packaging is another convenience feature that helps the user carry, move and utilize the product more easily [1].

#### 1.2 Packaging Type: Primary, Secondary and Tertiary

The packaging type is usually created according to the position of each package in the different preservation process of the product.

##### 1.2.1 Primary packaging

It is the type of packaging that comes into contact with the product. Its main purpose is to protect them and maintain their necessary properties. The primary packaging of a product is the primary material or layer that envelops the product and defines the smallest selling point of the product. It is eye-catching and attractive because it will be the first image the end customer will receive when they come into contact with the product. This is especially important when selling to customers or online. This volume will have little impact or visibility in the daily operation of the warehouse because it will be charged and divided into the second group and the second level. The contents are considered the original packaging of the product:

- milk cartons
- food cans
- plastic bottles
- concrete bags

### **1.2.2 Secondary Packaging**

The purpose of secondary packaging is to group multiple units of a product together to make storage, handling, and transportation easier. It helps consolidate and secure inventory, ensuring that products are protected during transit. Sometimes, secondary packaging is also designed to appeal to customers by showcasing products together, which can encourage sales. For this reason, secondary packaging might include clear plastic film to allow customers to see the products inside.

### **1.2.3 Tertiary Packaging**

Tertiary packaging is typically the outermost layer of packaging and is used for storing and processing large volumes of goods in warehouses. It is designed to ensure that the products are securely compressed, stable, and resistant to damage while stored on industrial shelves. Tertiary packaging also helps optimize available warehouse space.

Packaging materials include particleboard, corrugated cardboard, cardboard and substrate, plastic, aluminium, and paper. Each of these materials has its own uses, advantages, and disadvantages [2].

## **1.3 Types of Packaging Materials**

### **1.3.1 Particle Board**

- Composed of paper that has been recycled.
- Frequently used to package tiny goods including apparel, shoes, appliances and electronics.
- Robust enough for one-person shipment, but frequently paired with materials such as corrugated cardboard for added security.
- Constructed with a blend of virgin and recycled materials for increased strength.

### **1.3.2 Corrugated Cardboard**

- Incredibly robust, able to bear a large amount of weight.
- Flexible, it folds flat for simple storage.



- Frequently has sections to keep delicate objects like glass bottles safe and apart.
- Extensively utilized in retail goods and food packaging.

### **1.3.3 SBS Packaging (Sulphur-Bleached)**

- Composed of bleached and chemically pulped paper fibres.
- Usually applied to luxury goods like pharmaceuticals, medical supplies and cosmetics.
- Robust and fit for upscale packaging.

### **1.3.4 Kraft Paper**

- Fit for a variety of packing kinds.
- Environmentally benign because practically all of the chemicals used in production are recycled and reused.
- Robust, resistant to wear, and lowers shipping expenses.
- Robust, adaptable, and offers extra security.
- Affordable and adjustable to fit a variety of forms and sizes.

### **1.3.5 Wrapping film made of plastic**

- Used for shielding food during transportation from moisture and the elements.
- Good insulator that shields from outside influences and maintains freshness.
- Plays a big part in plastic pollution, especially when it comes to food packaging.

### **1.3.6 Aluminium**

- Offers superior defence against humidity, light, and other elements.
- It is costly for end consumers due to its high cost.
- Not appropriate for inexpensive products, but useful when the advantages outweigh the costs [3].

## **1.4 Application areas packaging**

Packaging adds more value to your products and protects it from contamination. The product will determine what type of packaging is used. Similarly, the production costs of the packaging and environmental concerns are other aspects to consider. There are many rules for choosing wet and dry packaging materials. The applications of durable packaging materials will be discussed in the following list:

### **1.4.1 Food**

The shelf life of food product packaging depends on the quality of the product packaging; therefore, sufficient attention should be paid to product selection and food packaging methods. The food industry is one of the important areas where packaging is widely used. The increasing global population and technological advancement have led to an increase in the demand for food packaging. Packaging must meet various needs, all of which are economical, efficient and effective. The constant demand for healthier, more convenient, safer and longer shelf life encourages innovation and new methods in food packaging. These materials are made of polymer, paper/cardboard, metal or glass. Polymers may or may not be edible. Non-edible food products are usually made from petrochemicals, while edible films are made from renewable materials such as starch, carbohydrates, polysaccharides, etc. These materials can be used directly on the food (consumable process) or can be produced separately and incorporated into the food as film/paper (edible film). or non-biodegradable. The properties of these materials can also be improved by mixing nanoparticles. The improved biodegradable packaging materials have many advantages over traditional packaging (unmodified, non-biodegradable). Ensuring food safety, extending shelf life until healthy and beneficial applications are found.

### **1.4.2 Cosmetics**

Plastic and glass materials used in cosmetics are the most commonly used packaging materials in the cosmetics industry. This is because they are in direct contact with the product. Paper/cardboard can also be used, but they need to be covered with polymer or aluminium foil to prevent it from absorbing the contents of the container. Packaging plays an important role in protecting the contents from microbial contamination and exposure to light and can provide information about the product in the industry. Transportation of certain products require the development of biodegradable polymers for cosmetic containers. This is mainly due to the increasing demand for new and improved products and the extension of the life of the packaging. The environmental impact of packaging materials is a major concern because most packaging materials cannot be recycled and are therefore disposed of in landfills or water bodies. Biodegradable polymers can degrade under environmental conditions and under the influence of certain organisms. Biodegradable polymers include polylactic acid, polysaccharides, PHAs, etc. As we all know, glass is one of the oldest packaging materials. This is because glass is impermeable, non-porous, chemically inert, non-degradable, and recyclable. Decorative glass containers come in different shapes and sizes. Glass containers can

be used as perfume, lip balm, eye shadow, foundation and more. Regardless of the material of other packaging, glass is always the preferred material in the cosmetic industry.

#### **1.4.4 Pharmaceuticals**

Drugs are synthetic or chemical substances that have a pharmacological or therapeutic effect on the human body. These products are classified according to their treatment, method of administration, and medical properties. Another important point to remember is that they have antibacterial, stabilizers, statins, anti-inflammatory drugs, and tranquilizers. They can also target many areas such as the cardiovascular, digestive, central nervous system, respiratory, reproductive, urinary, and immune systems. Therefore, drug packaging plays an important role in ensuring that the product achieves its intended purpose during production, transportation, storage, sale, delivery and use. Packaging materials protect the product from deterioration, contamination, adverse environmental conditions (light, moisture and oxygen). Medicines are usually packaged in plastic, paper and glass packaging. Pharmaceutical packaging is divided into three parts: primary, secondary and tertiary packaging technology. The first container is in direct contact with the drug, while the second system is packaged outside the first container. Secondary packaging methods can be boxes, paper or plastic crates. HVAX Viable Pharma Infrastructure defines third-party packaging system in the pharmaceutical industry as packaging compatible with secondary packaging.

#### **1.4.5 Meat, poultry and seafood**

The high moisture content in meat, poultry and seafood products can cause rapid growth of many pathogenic bacteria and spoilage. These products can also spoil quickly if not stored properly. Physical changes such as colour changes (loss of red meat, dark red meat, etc.) are a result of improper packaging of meat, poultry and seafood. Contamination is another hazard that can occur during transportation and processing of products, shortening the life of the product and causing health problems during consumption. Packaging materials help prevent contamination, spoilage and extend the shelf life of meat and poultry products. The packaging material reduces microbial growth and reduces the effects of microbial enzymes. Laminated polylactic acid (PLA) can improve the aroma in meat, poultry and seafood and reduce unpleasant odors. The quality of meat, poultry and seafood is best kept at low temperature, thus extending the shelf life. Treating the cold with the use of containers with the right permeability can extend the shelf life and freshness of these product. The meaning of packaging is generally divided into four categories:

- (i) Protection of goods from damage and loss
- (ii) Delivery information about the product
- (iii) Convenience
- (iv) Suitable for different products and shapes

Packaging materials for meat and poultry can be made from food products and inedible films. Films that can be used include starch and its derivatives (carrageenan, alginate) [4].

### 1.5 Importance of Packaging for the buyer

1. **Distribution:** The seller can move the goods from the producing facility to the point of sale and ultimately to the client with the help of effective packaging. In order to facilitate the consumer's consumption of the product, the seller employs consumer packaging in addition to transport packaging for the same items.
2. **Storage:** There are risks associated with warehousing, such as product spills and improper handling. The vendor can better arrange and keep the products by using proper packaging.
3. **Promotion:** A key component of a brand's marketing strategy, packaging helps to set a product apart from the competition by providing buyers with information about the characteristics, performance and advantages of the product in eye-catching containers.

### 1.6 Importance of Packaging for the seller

1. **Identification:** The product's packaging and labelling aid in its identification and help consumers set it apart from competing goods on the market.
2. **Usage:** Product packaging, such as that found in toothpaste, frequently facilitates the use and consumption of the product.
3. **Safety:** It shields the user from any risks associated with the product. An acid bottle, for instance, shields the user from acid burns [5].

### 1.7 History of Packaging and its Design

#### Early Beginnings

The concept of sustainable packaging has its roots in the early 20th century when the environmental impact of industrial activities began to be recognized. Initially, packaging was designed primarily for functionality and cost-effectiveness, with little regard for environmental consequences. However, as industrialization progressed, the accumulation of waste and

pollution became evident, prompting the first inklings of sustainable practices. In the early 1900s, packaging materials were predominantly natural, such as wood, glass, and metal. These materials were durable and reusable, but the advent of synthetic materials like plastics in the mid-20th century revolutionized packaging. Plastics offered unprecedented versatility and cost-effectiveness, leading to their widespread adoption. However, the environmental impact of plastic waste soon became apparent, setting the stage for future sustainable packaging initiatives. The early 20th century also saw the rise of mass production and consumerism, which led to an increase in packaging waste. As products became more widely available, the need for packaging to protect and preserve goods grew. This period marked the beginning of the throwaway culture, where packaging was often discarded after a single use. Despite this, some early efforts to reduce waste can be seen in the use of returnable glass bottles for milk and other beverages.

### **Mid-20th Century: The Rise of Environmental Awareness**

The mid-20th century marked a significant shift in environmental consciousness. The publication of Rachel Carson's "Silent Spring" in 1962 highlighted the detrimental effects of pesticides on the environment, sparking widespread environmental awareness. This period saw the beginning of the modern environmental movement, which emphasized the need for sustainable practices across various industries, including packaging. During this era, the concept of "planned obsolescence" in packaging design came under scrutiny. Companies began to realize that designing products and packaging with a short lifespan was not only wasteful but also environmentally damaging. This realization led to the early adoption of sustainable practices, such as designing packaging for durability and reusability. The 1960s also saw the introduction of the first environmental regulations aimed at reducing pollution and waste. The Clean Air Act of 1963 and the Clean Water Act of 1965 were among the first legislative efforts to address environmental issues in the United States. These regulations laid the groundwork for future policies that would promote sustainable packaging practices.

### **1970s: The Birth of Recycling**

The 1970s witnessed the formal introduction of recycling programs, driven by the growing concern over waste management. The first Earth Day in 1970 further galvanized public interest in environmental issues. During this decade, the concept of the "three Rs" (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) emerged, laying the foundation for sustainable packaging practices. Companies began to explore ways to reduce packaging waste and incorporate recycled materials into their

products. The oil crisis of the 1970s also played a pivotal role in shaping sustainable packaging. The scarcity of resources prompted industries to seek alternatives to traditional packaging materials. This period saw the development of lightweight packaging, which reduced material usage and transportation costs. Additionally, the introduction of deposit-return schemes for beverage containers encouraged consumers to return used packaging for recycling, further promoting sustainable practices. The 1970s also saw the rise of environmental activism, with organizations like Greenpeace and the Sierra Club advocating for more sustainable practices. These groups played a crucial role in raising awareness about the environmental impact of packaging and pushing for regulatory changes. The decade also saw the introduction of the first curbside recycling programs, making it easier for consumers to recycle their packaging waste.

### **1980s: Regulatory Push and Corporate Responsibility**

The 1980s saw increased regulatory pressure on industries to adopt more sustainable practices. Governments introduced legislation aimed at reducing waste and promoting recycling. In response, companies began to take corporate social responsibility (CSR) more seriously. Packaging design started to incorporate eco-friendly materials, and efforts were made to minimize excess packaging. The use of biodegradable materials and the reduction of harmful chemicals in packaging became more prevalent. During this decade, the concept of “green marketing” emerged, with companies promoting their environmentally friendly packaging as a selling point. This period also saw the rise of environmental certifications and labels, such as the Mobius loop, which indicated that a product was recyclable. These initiatives helped raise consumer awareness and drive demand for sustainable packaging. The 1980s also saw the introduction of extended producer responsibility (EPR) policies in some countries. These policies required manufacturers to take responsibility for the entire lifecycle of their products, including the disposal of packaging. This shift in responsibility encouraged companies to design packaging that was easier to recycle and had a lower environmental impact.

### **1990s: Technological Advancements and Innovation**

The 1990s brought significant technological advancements that revolutionized sustainable packaging. Innovations in materials science led to the development of biodegradable plastics, compostable packaging, and more efficient recycling processes. The concept of life cycle assessment (LCA) gained traction, allowing companies to evaluate the environmental impact of their packaging from production to disposal. This decade also saw the rise of eco-labelling, providing consumers with information about the environmental attributes of packaging. One of

the most notable advancements of the 1990s was the development of polylactic acid (PLA) plastics, derived from renewable resources like corn starch. PLA plastics offered a biodegradable alternative to traditional petroleum-based plastics, reducing the environmental impact of packaging waste. Additionally, advancements in recycling technology enabled the efficient processing of mixed-material packaging, further promoting sustainable practices. The 1990s also saw the introduction of the first eco-friendly packaging standards, such as the ISO 14000 series, which provided guidelines for environmental management. These standards helped companies implement sustainable practices and measure their environmental performance. The decade also saw the rise of corporate sustainability reports, where companies disclosed their environmental impact and efforts to reduce it.

### **2000s: Mainstream Adoption and Consumer Demand**

The early 2000s marked a turning point as sustainable packaging moved from niche markets to mainstream adoption. Consumer demand for environmentally friendly products surged, driven by increased awareness of climate change and environmental degradation. Companies responded by incorporating sustainable packaging into their branding and marketing strategies. The use of renewable resources, such as plant-based plastics and recycled paper, became more widespread. Additionally, the concept of extended producer responsibility (EPR) gained prominence, holding manufacturers accountable for the entire lifecycle of their products. During this period, the concept of “cradle-to-cradle” design gained popularity. This approach emphasized designing products and packaging with their entire lifecycle in mind, from production to disposal and potential reuse. Companies began to adopt closed-loop systems, where packaging materials were continuously recycled and reused, minimizing waste and resource consumption. The 2000s also saw the rise of green consumerism, with consumers increasingly seeking out products with minimal environmental impact. This shift in consumer behaviour prompted companies to invest in sustainable packaging solutions and highlight their environmental credentials. The decade also saw the introduction of eco-friendly packaging innovations, such as water-soluble packaging and packaging made from agricultural waste [6].

## **1.8 Rationale of Design**

### **1.8.1 Glass**

- **Preservation:** Glass is an excellent barrier to gases, moisture, and contaminants, which helps to preserve the freshness and quality of the contents, especially for food and beverages.

- **Inertness:** Glass does not react with the contents, ensuring that flavours, smells, and nutrients are not altered or degraded.
- **Safety:** It is non-toxic and does not leach chemicals into the contents, making it a safe option for packaging.
- **Recyclability:** Glass is highly recyclable and can be reused multiple times without losing quality, which is environmentally beneficial.
- **Aesthetics:** Glass often has a premium look and feel, which can enhance the perceived value of the product.
- **Durability:** While it can break, glass is relatively durable and can offer protection against contamination and spoilage when properly handled.

### 1.8.2 Wood

- **Strength and Durability:** Wood is strong and can provide robust protection for delicate or valuable items during shipping and handling.
- **Aesthetic Appeal:** Wooden packaging can give a premium, rustic, or artisanal look that enhances the perceived value of the product and attracts customers.
- **Sustainability:** Wood is a natural, biodegradable material, and if sourced sustainably, it can be an environmentally friendly packaging option.
- **Customizability:** Wood can be easily customized with carvings, engravings, or prints, allowing for unique and tailored packaging solutions.
- **Insulation:** Wood has natural insulating properties that can help protect products from temperature fluctuations.
- **Reusability:** Wooden packaging is often sturdy enough to be reused, making it a practical choice for packaging that might be repurposed or kept.

### 1.8.3 Plastic

- **Versatility:** Plastics can be moulded into a wide range of shapes and sizes, making them suitable for a variety of products, from flexible wraps to rigid containers.
- **Durability:** Plastics are lightweight and resistant to impact, moisture, and chemicals, which helps protect the contents during transport and handling.
- **Cost-Effectiveness:** Plastic packaging is often cheaper to produce and transport compared to other materials like glass or metal.



- **Barrier Properties:** Many plastics offer excellent barrier properties against moisture, gases, and light, which helps preserve the freshness and extend the shelf life of products.
- **Convenience:** Plastic packaging is often designed for ease of use, including features like resealable closures, easy-open tabs, and portion control.
- **Recycling and Reusability:** Many plastics are recyclable, and innovations in recycling technologies are improving the sustainability of plastic packaging. Additionally, some plastic packages are designed to be reusable.
- **Clarity:** Clear plastics allow consumers to see the product inside, which can be appealing for items where visibility is important, such as food or personal care products.

#### 1.8.4 Ceramic

- **Aesthetic Appeal:** Ceramic packaging often has a high-quality, elegant appearance, which can enhance the perceived value of the product and attract consumers.
- **Durability:** Ceramic can be very durable and resistant to certain types of physical damage. It offers solid protection for delicate or valuable items.
- **Non-reactive:** Ceramic is non-reactive and does not interact with the contents, making it suitable for products that need to be preserved without contamination or alteration.
- **Thermal Insulation:** Ceramic has good insulating properties, which can help in maintaining the temperature of hot or cold contents.
- **Sustainability:** Like glass, ceramic is a natural material and can be recyclable or biodegradable, depending on the specific type and composition.
- **Tradition and Branding:** Ceramic packaging can be used to convey a sense of tradition or craftsmanship, which is valuable for certain premium products, such as artisanal foods or luxury items.

#### 1.8.5 Paper

- **Sustainability:** Paper is biodegradable and recyclable, making it an environmentally friendly option when sourced from sustainably managed forests.
- **Customizability:** Paper can be easily printed, coated, and shaped, allowing for a wide range of designs and branding opportunities.
- **Cost-Effectiveness:** Paper is often less expensive to produce and process compared to some other materials, making it a cost-effective choice for many applications.

- **Lightweight:** Paper is lightweight, which can help reduce shipping costs and overall packaging weight.
- **Versatility:** Paper can be used in various forms, such as cardboard, craft paper, or paperboard, to suit different packaging needs, from cushioning to structural support.
- **Protection:** Paper can provide cushioning and protection for products, especially when used in combination with other materials like bubble wrap or inserts.
- **Reusability:** Some paper packaging designs are intended to be reused, adding an element of practicality and value for the consumer

#### 1.8.6 Metal

- **Protection:** Metal provides a strong barrier against physical damage, light, moisture, and gases, which helps to preserve the quality and extend the shelf life of the contents.
- **Durability:** Metal is highly durable and can withstand rough handling, making it ideal for protecting delicate or valuable products during transportation and storage.
- **Safety:** Metal packaging is often used for products that need to be preserved in a sanitary environment, such as canned foods, because it minimizes contamination and spoilage.
- **Recyclability:** Metals like aluminium and steel are highly recyclable, which makes them a sustainable choice when properly managed and recycled.
- **Shelf Life:** Metal can provide an effective seal that keeps out contaminants and maintains the product's freshness, which is crucial for many food and beverage items.
- **Aesthetics and Branding:** Metal packaging can offer a premium appearance and can be customized with various finishes and designs, enhancing the product's appeal and brand image.
- **Convenience:** Certain metal packaging, like cans with easy-open tabs, offers convenience for consumers by making it easier to access the product.

#### 1.8.7 Polylactic Acid (PLA)

- **Biodegradability:** PLA is derived from renewable resources like corn starch or sugarcane and is compostable under industrial conditions, making it an environmentally friendly alternative to conventional plastics.
- **Sustainability:** Using PLA reduces reliance on fossil fuels and lowers the carbon footprint associated with packaging, contributing to more sustainable practices.

- **Transparency and Appearance:** PLA can be manufactured to be clear or translucent, similar to traditional plastics, which is beneficial for packaging products where visibility is important.
- **Versatility:** PLA can be processed into various forms, such as films, bottles, and containers, making it adaptable to different packaging needs.
- **Safety:** PLA is generally considered safe for food contact, and it does not release harmful chemicals, making it suitable for packaging consumables.
- **Customizability:** PLA can be easily moulded and printed on, allowing for customized packaging solutions with various designs and branding options [7-13].

### 1.9 Packaging the future: Coca-Cola's journey towards sustainability

Coca-Cola is a global leader in the beverage industry, known not only for its iconic products but also for its innovative packaging. Since the introduction of its famous curved glass bottle in 1915, Coca-Cola has maintained strong brand recognition through its packaging, while continually adapting to changing consumer preferences. The company's packaging strategy has evolved over the years to include a range of options, such as glass bottles, aluminium cans, and plastic PET bottles, catering to different consumer needs and promoting brand loyalty. Campaigns like 'Share a Coke,' with personalized labels, have further strengthened consumer engagement, especially among younger audiences. As environmental concerns grow, Coca-Cola has faced increasing pressure to address the sustainability of its packaging. The company launched its 'World Without Waste' campaign in 2018, aiming to collect and recycle the equivalent of every bottle or can it sells by 2030. Coca-Cola is also working to reduce its reliance on virgin plastics, invest in plant-based bottles, and develop packaging that is 100% recyclable. These efforts are part of a broader strategy to lessen the company's environmental impact and promote a circular economy for its packaging materials. Despite these efforts, Coca-Cola continues to face challenges as one of the largest producers of single-use plastic bottles. The company is criticized for its contribution to plastic pollution, especially in regions with poor waste management systems. However, Coca-Cola is investing in research and development to explore biodegradable packaging and increase recycling infrastructure globally. In conclusion, Coca-Cola's commitment to sustainable packaging reflects its recognition of the environmental challenges it faces. While progress has been made, ongoing innovation and collaboration with stakeholders are critical to meeting its long-term sustainability goals [14].

### **1.10 Objectives**

1. To understand the problems associated with packaging, including environmental impact, material inefficiency, and consumer preferences.
2. To create and test packaging solutions that address the identified challenges, focusing on functionality, durability, and cost-effectiveness.
3. To develop sustainable packaging alternatives using recycled or biodegradable materials, minimizing environmental footprint and promoting eco-conscious practices.

## CHAPTER-2

### METHODOLOGY

---

This report outlines the development and application of sustainable packaging solutions using repurposed waste materials, such as old books, used cardboard, and unwearable clothes. The methodology is based on research and practical model creation, as detailed below:

#### **1. Literature Review and Online Research**

Conducted an extensive review of existing research, literature, and online resources on sustainable packaging practices and recycling techniques.

Focused on identifying viable materials and repurposing methods that could be implemented in practical packaging solutions.

#### **2. Material Collection**

Gathered waste materials, including old books, cardboard, and unwearable clothes from various available sources.

Selected materials based on their potential for being transformed into environmentally friendly packaging.

#### **3. Design and Prototyping**

Developed innovative packaging designs tailored to different applications, such as food packaging, product packaging and health supplements containers.

Utilized recycled paper and other materials to create alternatives to traditional packaging, focusing on functionality and environmental impact.

#### **4. Model Development**

Created physical models of the proposed packaging solutions to demonstrate the feasibility of using repurposed materials.

These models were designed to meet basic safety, durability and sustainability standards based on insights gathered from the research.

#### **5. Case Study and Analysis (Simplified)**

Compared the developed packaging solutions against conventional packaging in terms of environmental impact and practicality based on theoretical understanding and online case studies.

#### **6. Conclusion and Recommendations**

Summarized the findings, emphasizing the potential for repurposed materials to significantly reduce environmental waste. Offered recommendations for further research and application of these sustainable packaging solutions.



## CHAPTER-3

### EXISTENCE PACKAGING

---

#### 3.1 Current Design of Packaging

##### 1. Cardboard Box

Although it is the oldest packaging form, it is still widely used in business areas such as food and beverage storage, heavy goods transportation, etc. It is also divided into different categories such as bleached sulphate (SBS) cardboard for packaging paper, cosmetics, medicine, frozen food, etc. Coated Unbleached Kraft (CUK) sheet for those who prefer environmentally friendly paper with moisture-proof properties. Labels that can strengthen your advertisement. It also creates an image in the customer's mind. For example, many times when we buy something we forget the product name or product name or product type, then we look for the colour or other features registered in our mind to see it immediately.

##### 2. Corrugated Boxes

These boxes are made of cardboard and thick newspaper. The circuit board is a simple outer part that can be fixed to the paper. The base paper is also called cardboard. Help move products from production, shipping to sales and sometimes even taking the product out of the box and shipping it to the end user. These boxes are available for both regular and premium products.

##### 3. Plastic Packaging

Plastic is widely used in packaging many products, from space shuttles to paper clips. Its main advantage is that it is light and stable, making it easier and cheaper to transport. Without plastic packaging, many quality products used by consumers today would not be consumed and used for a long time. One of the most important advantages of plastic containers is that they can be recycled and require less electricity to produce new plastic than other materials. Approximately 56% of plastic on the market is used in packaging.

##### 4. Rigid Box

These are universal containers used for luxury goods. Compared to corrugated boxes. Folding cartons should be given importance when it comes to protection and durability during transportation and in raster business environment.

##### 5. Particleboard packaging:

Particleboard generally refers to cardboard made from raw materials. Another form of corrugated box is particleboard packaging, which is used for consumer goods that need

a clean and beautiful packaging in the box. The main advantage of using particleboard is that it can be easily cut, overlapped and shaped. It is also a great packaging option for your products. is a perfect example of a particleboard box. Initially customers were not satisfied with the quality and presentation, but gradually they gained customer satisfaction from the business.

## **6. Polyethylene Packaging**

It is a box made of thin and soft plastic film or thin and soft fabric. One of the many types of packaging found everywhere. They are used to carry food, flowers, garbage, books, etc. We can find them in the market until they are ready for delivery. The biggest advantage of using plastic bags is that they are flexible and easy to use; They also have many design options and functionality. These bags are generally less commonly used than boxes, cans or tins, so they are considered individual containers.

## **7. Aluminium Foil Sealed Bags**

These bags are stretchable, flexible and easily recyclable materials used only in the food, medical, tea and coffee industries. These bags help preserve the flavour of the product and extend its life. It is also used in food and pharmaceutical packaging because it can block light, oxygen, odor, taste and bacteria. It quickly forms into sheets and can be folded, rolled or packaged. Therefore, aluminium foil is used to package snacks such as hamburgers and sandwiches, and is widely used to package fresh foods every day.

## **8. Metal Packaging**

These bags are only used in food storage processes. The main role of metal packaging is to protect information from external factors during heat treatment, storage and packaging. 330 billion of these are beverage cans, 76 billion are food cans and the rest are ordinary cans. Plastic use has been reduced. Organizations such as Pepsi-Cola, Coca-Cola and others have begun to produce cans that offer attractive products and attract customers. They also received feedback from customers in the first stage.

## **9. Glass packaging**

Glass packaging is one of the oldest and most common types of packaging and still plays an important role today. They are used in the food and beverage industry. They have a water-resistant, leak-proof, non-toxic surface that plastic containers promise to keep dirt out of your snacks. The material is always expensive and metallic; this is because the energy used in the production of glass and all the fabrics gives the packaging a beautiful appearance.



## **10. Easy packaging**

In this type of packaging, the product is packaged with soft materials, providing lower prices and personal preference. Proper packaging, one of the packaging tasks, increases the demand and sales for food and other products. goods. The advantage of this packaging is that it is suitable for most dairy products and is inexpensive, offering customers a variety of opinions. It provides a new method of packaging innovation on the market [15].

### **3.2 Rationale for Designs**

Being able to properly view the product for themselves can increase customer satisfaction and the likelihood of purchase.

#### **Attracts buyers**

When considering the importance of product packaging, it's crucial to consider the wants and needs of the consumer. The main goal of creating any product, after all, is to attract customers and encourage them to buy your product. Because first impressions are so important to the buying process, well-designed product packaging can go a long way in putting your product into the hands of buyers. Choosing a style and colours that will appeal to consumers and encourage them to pick up your product is very important, as is choosing high-quality packaging materials. The product packaging is a reflection of the product inside and the brand as a whole. When designing product packaging, therefore, many brands conduct extensive research into the wants and needs of consumers to ensure their packaging is attractive and compelling.

#### **Differentiates the product from competitors**

When walking through the aisles of a store, it quickly becomes clear that there is no shortage of new and interesting products on the market. Many retailers often group similar products on shelves, so the need to separate your products from the competition is highly important. Well-made, eye-catching product packaging is a great way to do just that. While the size and shape of the packaging may be similar to the competition, the design should be different. The colours, fonts, and style you choose for your packaging can easily help set your product apart from other companies. Innovative designs such as clear plastic boxes will catch the consumer's eye and help put your product a cut above the rest [16].

### 3.3 Environmental impact of packaging

Environmental issues are important to people. According to the study, 75% of US customers think about how their purchases would affect the environment. Even more justification for brands to start going green. Making a big difference doesn't require strength; rather, it requires a commitment to assist by staying out of the issue. Waste from packaging accounts for a significant amount of the world's rubbish problem. These items, which contaminate and litter our land, streams, and oceans will take more than 400 years to biodegrade. They include plastic bags, wrappings, containers, Styrofoam sheets, packing peanuts and bubble wrap. The company will gain a reputation for doing good by using sustainable packaging design. Refusing to use conventional yet dangerous packaging design solutions conveys the desire to accept accountability.

Packaging can have many negative effects on the environment. Here are some of the ways packaging harms the environment:

Packaging production often requires the extraction of products such as wood, oil, minerals, and other resources. This extraction leads to land degradation, deforestation and soil degradation, causing damage to ecosystems. Among the materials, glass and metal require a lot of energy. This energy is mostly derived from fossil fuels, which cause greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to climate change. Create a lot of waste. In many cases, packaging is thrown into landfills, resulting in non-biodegradable waste. Even if the packaging is recycled or damaged, it still requires energy and resources to process it, and the amount of recycled materials varies by product and region. Improper disposal of packaging, especially single-use plastics, can end up as waste in natural environments such as rivers, lakes, oceans and forests. These pollutants harm wildlife through ingestion, entanglement and habitat destruction. Plastic, in particular, can break down into micro plastics, which can contaminate water sources and end up in food supplies. Some plastics and paints can contain harmful chemicals such as phthalates, biphenyl A (BPA) or heavy metals. These chemicals can leach into food, drinking water or the environment, posing a risk to human health and ecosystems. transportation increases fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. The transportation of empty containers for recycling or landfills also causes carbon emissions. and water bodies. For example, leachate from landfills can contain contaminants that enter the soil and potentially affect drinking water and aquatic ecosystems. Recycling, reuse, and improving waste management techniques are some strategies to reduce the environmental impact of packaging [17].

### 3.4 Sustainable Packaging

The term "sustainable packaging" describes the use of materials and design strategies that reduce packaging's overall environmental impact. It entails taking into account a product's complete lifecycle, from the procurement of raw materials to disposal, with the goal of minimizing waste and fostering recycling [18].

#### 3.4.1 Benefits for business

1. **Cost benefits:** Businesses can experience long-term cost benefits with sustainable packaging, even if it may require an upfront investment. Businesses can lower their shipping expenses by utilizing materials that are more lightweight and efficient. Using recyclable or renewable materials is another common practice in sustainable packaging, which can ultimately save costs.
2. **Brand Reputation:** In today's socially conscious market, companies that put sustainability first are attracting more and more customers. Businesses may attract environmentally conscious customers and improve their brand reputation by implementing sustainable packaging methods. This may result in a rise in client loyalty and a competitive advantage in the marketplace.
3. **Regulatory Compliance:** Tighter laws are being put in place by governments all over the world about packaging waste. Businesses may guarantee compliance with these regulations and prevent possible fines or penalties by proactively implementing sustainable packaging techniques. Additionally, it helps companies stay ahead of the curve and adjust to shifting regulatory environments.

#### 3.4.2 Benefits for Environment

1. **Waste Reduction:** Reducing waste is one of the main advantages of sustainable packaging. Businesses can reduce the quantity of packaging trash that ends up in landfills by employing recyclable or compostable materials. This lessens the overall environmental effect of packing and contributes to resource conservation.
2. **Energy conservation:** Using materials that take less energy to create is a common practice in sustainable packaging. For instance, generating packaging from recycled materials uses less energy than making it from virgin materials. Businesses can lessen their carbon footprint and help to mitigate climate change by practicing energy conservation.

- 3. Resource conservation:** By encouraging the use of recycled or renewable materials, sustainable packaging helps to lower the demand for virgin resources. This promotes the preservation of natural resources including water, minerals, and trees. Businesses may help preserve ecosystems and biodiversity by adopting materials with less of an impact on the environment [19].

### **3.4.3 Importance of Sustainable Packaging in Today's World**

Concern over the effects of packing on the environment has grown in recent years. Eco-friendly packaging has become much more in demand as people realize how important sustainability is. Businesses have had to reconsider their packaging tactics and implement more environmentally friendly procedures as a result of this change in consumer behaviour. This article will discuss the advantages of sustainable packaging for businesses and the environment. Priority one should be given to comprehending the need for sustainable packaging. When it comes to keeping goods safe during storage and transportation, packaging is essential. On the other hand, conventional packing materials like Styrofoam and plastic are bad for the environment. Conversely, packaging that is considered sustainable is made with an eye toward reducing its environmental impact over the course of its life. It is easily recyclable or compostable after use because it is composed of recyclable or renewable materials. Businesses may drastically lower their carbon footprint and help create a more sustainable future by using sustainable packaging. The favourable effects of sustainable packaging on the environment are among its main advantages. Businesses may contribute to the preservation of natural resources and the decrease of waste being dumped in landfills by utilizing recycled or renewable products. For instance, packaging composed of cardboard or recycled paper can help stop deforestation and conserve trees. In a similar vein, packaging that decomposes organically without harming the environment is guaranteed when biodegradable materials, such as plant-based plastics or compostable materials, are used. Furthermore, using environmentally friendly packaging lowers greenhouse gas emissions. Conventional packaging materials need a lot of energy to produce because they are made of fossil fuels like plastic. One of the main causes of climate change is the generation of greenhouse gases, which is a result of this energy-intensive production process. Businesses may lessen their dependency on fossil fuels and their carbon emissions by converting to sustainable packaging, which will help to mitigate the effects of climate change. Apart from its favourable effects on the environment, sustainable packaging presents other benefits for enterprises. First off, it promotes consumer loyalty and brand reputation.

Consumers are increasingly basing their purchasing decisions on a company's sustainability commitment in today's socially conscious environment.

### **3.5 What are Sustainable Packaging Designs?**

Using packaging materials and techniques that reduce their detrimental effects on the environment, society, and economy is known as sustainable package design. Its goal is to lessen the packaging's whole environmental impact which includes production, usage, distribution and disposal. Sustainable packaging seeks to encourage the use of renewable and biodegradable materials while reducing the usage of products that are bad for the environment, such as plastics. It also takes into account the packaging's complete lifecycle, which includes its environmental impact, carbon footprint, and capacity for recycling or reuse [20].

### **3.6 Best Materials for Sustainable Packaging Designs**

Loyal customers will understand that this multi-layered process demands time and effort. But one can show their intention to help by switching to sustainable materials and design options. Here are some of the best materials that will make packaging environmentally friendly:

#### **1. Corrugated Cardboard**

Corrugated boxes have long been a popular choice for package design, much like plastics. They aren't nearly as well-known for their environmental impact, though. For many years, corrugated cardboard has been a common material for packing. All around the world, it is used for a plethora of diverse items. Purchasing corrugated cardboard in the shape of traditional rectangular boxes is typical. Alternately, you could receive it in flat stacks and assemble the boxes yourself. These box packing designs can be used and customized in the following ways. Made of fiberboard, which naturally decomposes without causing harm to the environment. Corrugated boxes are often used to package consumer goods, electronics, DVDs, and pre-packaged foods including cereal, chips and cookies.

#### **2. Polybags**

Although polybags made of plastic are what we are accustomed to, they can also be constructed of different materials. Compostable and biodegradable polybags can break down organically without harming the environment because they are composed of plant-based ingredients like potato or corn-starch. Because recycled plastic is used to make sustainable polybags, less virgin plastic is required. Because to their great flexibility, reflectivity, pleasant hand feel, and slim body shape, polybags are still commonly used

today. Polybags are primarily used for packing a wide range of consumer goods, such as pillows, bed linens, business magazines, t-shirts, and mailers.

### **3. Metal**

This material is durable, mostly recyclable, and simple to manage at the end of its life. For many applications, including packaging design, metal is a responsible and effective material choice. Metal may be recycled endlessly without losing its quality because it is very recyclable. In order to save natural resources and cut greenhouse gas emissions, recycling metal uses less energy and resources than mining and processing new metal. Metal is a strong material that is resistant to abrasion and may endure for many years. This implies that rather than being thrown away after a single use, metal goods and packaging can be recycled or used again. Because they are lightweight and have a high strength-to-weight ratio, metals like steel and aluminium are simple to distribute and carry. This lowers energy use and emissions from transportation.

### **4. Glass**

Glass can be used because glass is so recyclable, it is an ideal sustainable packaging material. Glass recycling uses less energy and resources than new glass production, which lowers greenhouse gas emissions and conserves natural resources. The glass-made container has a high reusability. You can encourage your clients to participate in your recycling endeavours by offering incentives. However, they can also take on new uses on the kitchen shelves of your customers (keeping tea or spices, for instance) and serve as a continual reminder of your brand.

### **5. Mushroom Packaging**

One of the more recent possibilities for sustainable design is packaging made of mushrooms or mycelium. Made entirely of rice or maize husks, it decomposes completely naturally. This material decomposes in a matter of months, minimizing waste and pollution in packaging designs. This packing material has a smaller carbon footprint than plastic and Styrofoam because it emits fewer greenhouse gases. Additionally, non-toxic is the sustainable design packaging made of mushrooms. This material has well above average design versatility since it can be moulded into a wide variety of forms and sizes.

### **6. Bioplastic**

Bioplastics are a kind of plastic generated from renewable resources such maize starch, sugarcane, and potato starch, as opposed to traditional plastics, which are made from non-renewable resources like crude oil. The word comes from the process of making

materials for product packaging that are used for protection, storage, and transit utilizing bioplastics. There are two primary types of bioplastics used in packaging: biodegradable and non-biodegradable. They are designed to break down organically in the environment, either by microbial consumption or composting. Bioplastics are more environmentally friendly than traditional plastics. Due to its biodegradability and utilization of renewable resources during manufacturing, they may reduce waste and pollution [21].

### **3.7 Benefits of sustainable packaging designs**

Sustainable packaging designs offer several benefits, both for businesses and the environment:

#### **Environment**

1. **Reduces Waste:** In order to help cut down on landfill waste, sustainable designs frequently minimize the amount of materials used and promote recycling or composting.
2. **Reduces Carbon Footprint:** Sustainable packaging can reduce greenhouse gas emissions by employing eco-friendly materials and effective manufacturing techniques.
3. **Conserves Resources:** Sustainable designs can be more energy-efficient and frequently make use of renewable resources, which helps to preserve natural resources.

#### **Financial Gains**

1. **Savings:** Lower production and delivery expenses might result from minimizing the amount of packaging material used and improving design.
2. **Enhanced Brand Value:** Businesses that implement sustainable practices frequently attract environmentally conscientious customers and improve their brand image.
3. **Regulatory Compliance:** By adhering to sustainability standards, businesses can remain ahead of the curve on regulations and steer clear of possible penalties or limitations.

#### **Benefits to Customers**

1. **Better Product Perception:** Eco-friendly solutions are becoming more and more sought after by consumers. The way a product and brand are perceived overall can be enhanced by using sustainable packaging.
2. **Convenience:** Creative packaging designs can improve usability by making it simpler to open or easier to store.

## **Innovation and Differentiation**

- 1. Encourages Innovation:** The challenge of creating sustainable packaging can inspire creativity and innovation in materials and procedures.
- 2. Market Differentiation:** Brands can attract customers that value environmental responsibility by using sustainable packaging to stand out in a crowded marketplace.

### **3.8 Need for Sustainable Packaging Design**

89% Australian shoppers are worried about wasteful packaging. 85 percent of Americans and Britons alarmed by waste from plastic packaging. 78% suggest that the greatest way to reduce plastic waste is to use compostable packaging. Merely 23 percent of all PE films were reportedly sent for recycling in 2018. The great majority of food packaging ends up in the trash. Globally, 29.88 million tons of flexible packaging were used in 2023. High-performance, low-waste packaging is even more important, especially in light of the sharp rise in online sales and e-commerce delivery [22].



## CHAPTER-4

### ECO-FRIENDLY PACKAGING SOLUTIONS

---

#### 4.1 Solutions

##### 1. Jean Genius



We repurposed old jeans to create a durable and eco-friendly grocery bag. This innovation effectively reduces waste by transforming discarded denim into a practical and sustainable alternative to single-use plastic bags. The robust nature of denim ensures that the bag is both strong and long-lasting, capable of withstanding the rigors of regular grocery use. Its reusable design not only supports environmental conservation but also minimizes the demand for new resources. By giving old jeans a second life, this initiative highlights the potential of upcycling to address environmental challenges and promote more sustainable consumption practices.

##### 2. Leaf Wrap



We have designed small packaging boxes using leaves as the primary material. This eco-friendly solution repurposes natural leaves, creating biodegradable and sustainable packaging that serves as an alternative to traditional materials. The leaf-based boxes are lightweight yet sturdy, providing a unique and environmentally conscious option for packaging small items. This innovation reduces reliance on synthetic materials, minimizes waste, and promotes the use of renewable resources. By incorporating leaves into packaging, we emphasize the potential of natural materials to address environmental challenges and support more sustainable consumption practices.

### **3. Paper Box**



This is a handmade gift box crafted using coloured paper, thread and a small amount of glue. The paper is folded carefully into a neat box shape, with small cuts on top to allow the thread to pass through. The thread is tied in a knot to keep the box closed securely, and it adds a decorative touch to the overall look. It's made by using easily available materials like paper, glue, and thread to create useful items, while also learning about basic design and creativity.

#### 4. **Biococo Pack**



This sustainable packaging box is crafted from coconut coir fibres, offering a natural and eco-friendly alternative to conventional materials. Coconut coir, sourced from the husk, is known for its strength, flexibility, and biodegradability, making it an ideal choice for environmentally conscious packaging. The rough yet durable texture of the coir provides excellent protection, while being completely compostable and renewable. This innovative use of coconut fibres helps reduce waste and promotes sustainability, aligning with efforts to minimize the environmental impact of packaging materials.

#### 5. **Eco Aid Box**



A Sustainable Approach to First Aid Packaging. An inventive way to encourage eco-friendly packaging in the medical field is the "Eco Aid Box." The Eco Aid Box is created from recycled cardboard and paper, which reduces the need for non-biodegradable materials, in contrast to conventional first-aid boxes that are made of plastic. Because it is completely recyclable and biodegradable, its environmentally friendly design not only guarantees longevity and usefulness but also provides a sustainable alternative. The Eco Aid Box complies with the guidelines of the circular economy and responsible resource

use by reducing the amount of plastic waste and the carbon footprint related to packaging production. It shows how eco-friendly packaging may be successfully incorporated into commonplace items, opening the door for future environmentally friendly packaging innovations.

## **6. EcoFold Vault**



The EcoFold Vault is a sustainable and eco-friendly packaging solution created from recycled materials. By mashing old papers and mixing them with glue, ingeniously molded it into a sturdy container. The outer surface is wrapped with old corrugated cardboard, one side peeled back to reveal a textured and appealing design, adding a unique touch to its appearance. The container's lid, also crafted from cardboard, fits snugly, ensuring that the contents inside are securely protected. This design not only promotes recycling but also reduces waste, making it an excellent choice for those seeking environmentally conscious packaging options. It exemplifies the potential of transforming discarded materials into functional, attractive, and practical containers for everyday use. The Eco Fold Vault can be used for a variety of purposes, from storing food items to packaging products, aligning with the goals of minimalist and sustainable packaging. The rough yet deliberate design of the container gives it a rustic, earthy aesthetic while reinforcing the message of environmental responsibility

## 7. Divine Carryall



We created an eco-friendly jute bag model as an alternative in the packaging field for carrying Pooja items. This bag is crafted using sustainable materials such as jute rope, recycled cardboard and cloth. The rope is used for the sturdy handles, while the cardboard forms the bag's structure. The cloth adds durability and an appealing finish. This model provides a sustainable alternative to plastic buckets and other non-biodegradable options, offering both functionality and environmental benefits.

### 4.2 Future scope and recommendations

#### 1. Biodegradable and Compostable Materials

**Future Scope:** Growth in the use of plant-based materials, like corn-starch, seaweed, or mushroom-based packaging, will expand. These materials decompose naturally and reduce the environmental footprint.

**Recommendation:** Invest in research and partnerships with bioplastics manufacturers and compostable material innovators to create more accessible, cost-effective, and high-performance solutions.

#### 2. Circular Economy and Recycling

**Future Scope:** There will be a shift toward a circular economy where packaging materials are designed to be reused or recycled continuously, reducing the need for virgin materials.

**Recommendation:** Design packaging that can be fully recycled, reused, or remanufactured. Implement closed-loop systems in supply chains, and collaborate with waste management companies to streamline recycling processes.

### 3. Minimalism and Material Reduction

**Future Scope:** Companies will focus on using minimal materials for packaging, reducing both the volume and types of materials, simplifying recycling.

**Recommendation:** Explore design innovations that use fewer resources while maintaining product protection. Focus on lightweight materials and smart design that cuts down on waste.

### 4. Smart Packaging

**Future Scope:** Smart packaging using IoT technology will enhance product tracking, safety, and sustainability by minimizing waste and improving logistics.

**Recommendation:** Incorporate RFID tags, QR codes, and sensors that monitor freshness or provide recycling information. Smart packaging can also enhance supply chain efficiency, reducing environmental impact.

### 5. Refillable and Reusable Packaging

**Future Scope:** Brands will move toward refillable and reusable packaging to reduce single-use plastics. This is already popular in industries like cosmetics and food and beverage.

**Recommendation:** Invest in designing durable packaging that consumers can refill, either in-store or through delivery services. This can also create brand loyalty as consumers return for refills.

### 6. Policy and Regulation Alignment

**Future Scope:** Governments will introduce stricter regulations on non-sustainable packaging, pushing industries toward greener alternatives.

**Recommendation:** Stay ahead of regulations by adopting sustainable practices proactively. Engage with policymakers to contribute to the creation of realistic and effective packaging regulations.

### 7. Consumer Awareness and Education

**Future Scope:** Increasing consumer demand for environmentally responsible products will drive the adoption of sustainable packaging.

**Recommendation:** Educate consumers about the benefits of sustainable packaging and how to dispose of or recycle it correctly. Clear labelling and communication can enhance consumer participation.

## **8. Sustainable Printing and Inks**

**Future Scope:** More emphasis will be placed on using environmentally friendly inks and printing processes, reducing toxic waste.

**Recommendation:** Use water-based, soy-based, or other eco-friendly inks for packaging printing. This reduces environmental impact and aligns with overall sustainability goals.

## **9. Localized Supply Chains**

**Future Scope:** The localization of supply chains will reduce carbon emissions associated with transportation and encourage the use of locally sourced materials.

**Recommendation:** Source packaging materials locally whenever possible. This supports local economies and reduces transportation-related emissions.

## **10. Collaboration and Industry-Wide Initiatives**

**Future Scope:** Collaboration between companies, governments, and non-profit organizations will become critical in developing widespread sustainable packaging solutions.

**Recommendation:** Participate in industry-wide collaborations and initiatives to set common sustainability goals, share best practices, and create innovative solutions.



## REFERENCES

1. Feedough.com Packaging and its types. Retrieved From-  
<https://www.feedough.com/packaging-definition-types-functions/>
2. Ar.racking.com Types of packaging. Retrieved From-  
<https://www.ar-racking.com/en/blog/primary-secondary-and-tertiary-packaging-types-and-differences/>
3. ITB packaging Types of packaging material. Retrieved From-  
<https://itbpackaging.com/packaging-optimization/types-of-packaging-materials/>
4. Canr.msu.edu Applications of packaging. Retrieved From  
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/food-medicine-cosmetic-packaging-overview>
5. Circularity.com. Why packaging is important? Retrieved From-  
<https://4circularity.com/5-reasons-why-packaging-is-important/>
6. Designhill.com History of Packaging and its Design. Retrieved From-  
[The Evolution Of Packaging Design \(designhill.com\)](https://www.designhill.com/history-of-packaging-design/)
7. Packagingschool.com Reason of design (Glass). Retrieved From-  
[The Basics of Glass Packaging \(packagingschool.com\)](https://www.packagingschool.com/glass-packaging/)
8. www.exportcorporation.com Reason of design (Wood). Retrieved From-  
[Advantages & Applications of Wood Packaging - Export Corporation](https://www.exportcorporation.com/advantages-applications-wood-packaging/)
9. Ris.utwente.nl Reason of design (Plastic). Retrieved From-  
[Sanne Meijer Design for and from Recycling IAPRI 2021 conference paper .pdf \(utwente.nl\)](https://ris.utwente.nl/bitstream/handle/10021/100000/1/Sanne_Meijer_Design_for_and_from_Recycling_IAPRI_2021_conference_paper.pdf)
10. Cermer.com Reason of that design (Ceramic). Retrieved From-  
[Ceramics: The smart food packaging | PRODUCT | Cermer](https://www.cermer.com/ceramics-the-smart-food-packaging/)
11. www.jabil.com Reason of that design (Paper). Retrieved From-  
[Unpacking the Complexity of Paper Packaging Design | Jabil](https://www.jabil.com/unpacking-the-complexity-of-paper-packaging-design/)
12. www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov Reason of that design (Metal). Retrieved From-  
[Review on metal packaging: materials, forms, food applications, safety and recyclability - PMC \(nih.gov\)](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31111111/)
13. Plamfg.com Reason of that design (PLA). Retrieved From-  
[What is PLA Packaging? PLA Packaging Examples and Benefits \(plamfg.com\)](https://www.plamfg.com/what-is-pla-packaging/)
14. Simplilearn.com. Case study Coca Cola. Retrieved From-  
<https://www.simplilearn.com/tutorials/marketing-case-studies-tutorial/coca-cola-marketing-strategy>



15. Packhelp.com Current Design of Packaging Retrieved From-  
<https://packhelp.com/sustainable-packaging/#:~:text=Sustainable%20design%20is%20designing%20product,with%20another%20purpose%20in%20mind>
16. Rostoneopex.com Environmental impact of packaging). Retrieved From-  
<https://www.rostoneopex.com/short-reads/how-does-packaging-damage-the-environment>
17. Tipa-corp.com. Sustainable Packaging. Retrieved From-  
<https://tipa-corp.com/sustainable-packaging/>
18. Upack.in. Benefits of Sustainable Packaging. Retrieved From-  
<https://www.upack.in/blog/post/Sustainable-Packaging-Win-Win-for-Businesses-and-the-Environment#:~:text=As%20consumers%20become%20more%20conscious%20of%20their%20carbon%20footprint%2C%20the,energy%20consumption%2C%20and%20promote%20sustainability>
19. Spispouches.com. importance. Retrieved From-  
<https://www.spispouches.com/blog/what-are-the-benefits-of-sustainable-packaging>
20. Designrush.com. sustainable packaging designs. Retrieved From-  
<https://www.designrush.com/best-designs/packaging/trends/sustainable-packaging-design>
21. Packsend.com. Sustainable Packaging Materials. Retrieved From-  
<https://www.packsend.com.au/blog/sustainable-packaging-materials/>

