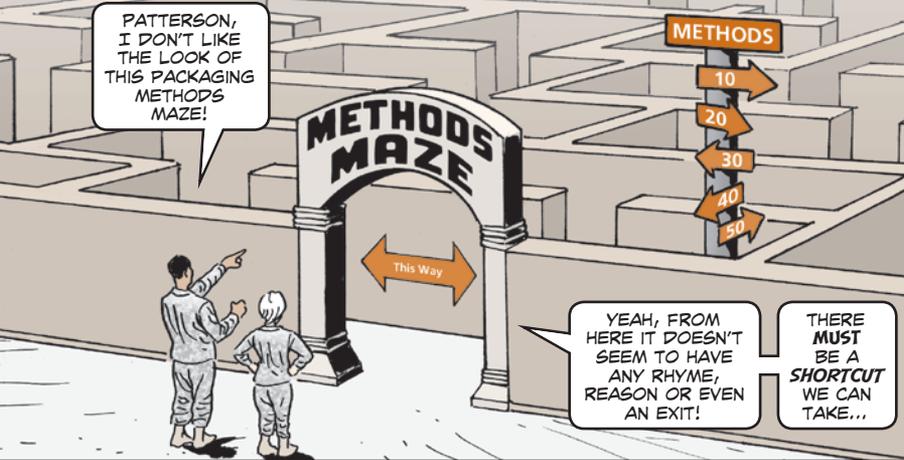


Packaging... CLEARING THE METHODS OF PRESERVATION MAZE



CLOE! ðWHEW!ð IF ANYONE CAN HELP US, IT'S YOU!

Does it seem like you're wandering through a maze when trying to figure out how to protect your unit's items for shipment or storage? A good map is what you need. Once you learn about military packaging preservation methods, you can navigate around any obstacles that pop up.

An excellent map is MIL-STD-2073-1, *Standard Practice for Military Packaging*. This pub tells you about the available methods to protect materiel against corrosion and deterioration, physical and mechanical damage, and other harm. Any of these can happen during storage, handling, or shipment of materiel.

Deciding which protection method to use on a particular item is based on that item's characteristics. It's common sense that you wouldn't package delicate electronics equipment the same way you would an M1 Abrams tank!

In military packaging, there are five basic preservation methods. They are:

- Method 10-Physical protection
- Method 20-Physical protection with preservative (with greaseproof wrap, as required)
- Method 30-Waterproof or waterproof-greaseproof protection (with preservative, as required)
- Method 40-Water-vaporproof protection (with preservative, as required)
- Method 50-Water-vaporproof protection with desiccant.

Many military items, like engines, avionics, gyroscopes, and electrostatic-sensitive devices, need a high level of protection. That's usually because they are high dollar value items, can deteriorate rapidly, or are sensitive to physical damage.

FAQs

- Q: How do I return unserviceable repairable items?**
A: Return them in the package the new replacement part came in, if the packaging is still in good condition. If it was damaged, then duplicate the package as best you can.
- Q: We can't find packaging instructions for an item. Can we just make up our own?**
A: Before you reinvent the wheel, be sure to check for packaging instructions in LIW, FED LOG, and WebFLIS. If none of these places have information on your item, then contact the item manager's packaging specialists.
- You can also examine the item's characteristics and look up requirements for a similar item. MIL-STD-2073-1 lists all methods and sub-methods for military packaging.
- However, the best choice if you don't understand something in MIL-STD-2073-1 or you have questions is to call the Logistics Support Activity's Packaging, Storage and Containerization Center at DSN 795-7105, (570) 615-7105, or email: toby.pt@us.army.mil

