

Factsheet: Cardboard Balers

Reduce the volume of cardboard waste



What is it and what does it do?

A cardboard baler presses cardboard waste into tightly packed bales with a powerful engine, which uses a hydraulic mechanism. The compressed bales, generally speaking, have the dimensions of a standard euro pallet. Overall, a cardboard baling press will help you recycle your cardboard more easily and sell it to the recycling industry.

Why we need it?

If you are a company that produces a lot of cardboard waste, has limited space for storing cardboard waste and/or wants to sell cardboard waste to the recycling industry, then a cardboard baler is a machine that you should seriously consider purchasing for your business.

What does it cost?

Cardboard balers are quite an investment, starting at \$5,000 for a basic baler and ranging all the way up to \$1.5 million for the high-end industrial machines. However, most balers (vertical presses) used in warehouses will cost between \$10,000 and \$40,000. An alternative option to consider include purchasing a secondhand baler or leasing a baler for a fixed price per month. You may also want to look into maintenance contracts to keep your cardboard baler into top condition.

Pros and cons:

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduces cardboard waste volume & saves storage space.• Reduces waste removal costs.• Environmentally friendly solution for high volumes of cardboard waste.• Better revenue for your cardboard waste.• Transporting baled cardboard is more efficient for waste hauling.• Balers improves quality of the cardboard waste stream.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The baler itself takes up space in your facility.• It is an expensive device, but it is an investment.• Additional tools and supplies needed, such as: wheeled container, strapping wire and pallets.• The machines are not fully automated, so it takes time for the operator to load, strap and unload the cardboard.

Features to decide on:

- **Do we need vertical or horizontal cardboard baler?** – Vertical balers are more popular as they take up less space but are more time consuming, while horizontal balers are more time efficient as they work like a conveyer belt but they do take up significantly more space.
- **Is a small or large baler better for us?** – The actual question here is: how much space do we have available? Both the size of the baler and the bales should be considered. The deciding factors of this choice are the frequency of use and the space you have available for the baler and storing the bales.
- **How much power should our baler have?** – Choosing how much power your baler should have depends on how often and how much cardboard you expect it to bale, and how powerful of power source you have at your facility. Most balers require more power than the standard 220V.

- **What kind of door should we choose?** – Characteristics to consider are the feed width, the direction in which the door opens, if it should swing or slide, if you want a double door, and what type of lock you want it to have.
- **Do we prefer recessed bales?** – If you choose a cardboard baler which recesses the bales then you won't need to place the bale onto a pallet for transport. These types of balers are useful for when you have limited storage space and do not use pallets for other operations.

Recommended vertical balers:

<p>HSM V-Press 610</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small baler for tighter spaces with automatic bale ejection • Approx. \$9,000 	<p>HSM V-Press 820 Plus</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium baler with a small footprint that produces recessed bales • Approx. \$13,000 	<p>HSM V-Press 1160 plus</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large baler for high volumes with automatic bale ejection • Approx. \$25,000
--	---	---

Features & options:

<p>Horizontal baler</p> 	<p>Vertical baler (with pallet)</p> 	<p>Vertical baler (without pallet)</p> 
<p>Double door</p> 	<p>Loading flap</p> 	<p>Sliding door</p> 

More information: www.recycling.com/cardboard-balers/