Collapsible Tubes

Collapsible tubes are a type of packaging that can hold viscous liquids such as toothpaste, creams, pastes, paints, ointments, gels, and adhesives. Some advantages of collapsible tubes are their ability to keep their shape, while easily dispensing product. They are light and space efficient, making them easy to transport and store.

A majority of tubes are found in hair care, beauty, and cosmetics industries with products such as hair gel, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, suntan lotion, facial cleanser, liquid foundation, concealer, and lip gloss.



Because collapsible tubes dispense easily and contamination is kept at a minimum, these are also popular for pharmaceutical applications like ointments and creams. Pet care is a growing category for collapsible tubes in relation to food products, toothpastes, ointments and oral medications.

Collapsible tubes are also used in food & beverage, home & garden, and automotive industries but with less frequency than these other categories.

Many collapsible tubes sold at McKernan are made from LDPE or other forms of plastic but some are also made of aluminum.

Often, a symmetrical cap is paired with a collapsible tube and can be either a continuous thread cap or a dispensing cap such as snap-top, with a sponge applicator, or a twist open and close.

