Four Compartment Packaging

This is a moderately complex pattern packaging task using two patterns.



Materials

- 27 4-compartment boxes labeled inside A or B (A)
- 54 C-rings B
- 54 wood disks ©
- 54 metal plates D
- 54 wood rods 🖲
- 2 sample boxes labeled inside A and B (F)
- 1 3-compartment bin
- 1 single-compartment bin
- 2 red storage bins



Four-item packaging samples

Norms:

Per unit – 15 seconds Per task (27 units) – 6 minutes, 45 seconds

The per unit norm is an average of patterns A and B.

Setup

Remove the protective cardboard sleeves from the 4-compartment boxes. The sleeves can be discarded or kept to protect the boxes in storage. They are not part of the task.

Place the storage bin with the 4-compartment boxes to the left. Place the 3-compartment bin and the single-compartment bin in the center, with the C-rings, wood disks, metal plates, and wood rods in a separate compartment. Place the empty storage bin to the right.

The standard task uses match-to-sample procedures. Make sample boxes and place them in the work area (see examples at left). The procedure requires the worker to take an empty box from the storage bin, read the letter on the inside of the box lid, and match the packaging pattern of the correspondingly lettered sample.

Procedure

- Take one empty 4-compartment box, open it, and read the letter inside the lid.
- Set the open box on the table facing front. Take items (C-rings, wood disks, metal plates, wood rods) and place them in the appropriate compartments as shown in the appropriate sample.
- Close the box and place it in the empty storage bin, right side up, with the front facing the front of the bin. Stack the boxes in 3 levels of 9 boxes per level.
- Repeat the previous steps for the remaining boxes.

Quality Criteria

The lid of each 4-compartment box must be closed. The items inside must match the appropriate sample in number and location. The box must be placed in the red storage bin in 3 levels of 9 boxes per level.

Note

This task requires specific motor skills: opening and closing the boxes, dropping items into the boxes, and stacking the completed boxes. It also requires the worker to discriminate between A and B and to match to a sample containing several different items. The match-to-sample procedure is generally more difficult to master.

Variations

- A 4-item packaging task using pattern A only.
- A 4-item packaging task using pattern B only. Note that pattern B should always contain 2 pieces per item.

There are many more variations possible. Consider changing the number of items per pattern (the standard task uses 4 different items for both patterns). Consider changing the location of the items in the four-compartment boxes. Consider changing the number of pieces used per item (in the standard task, pattern B uses 2 pieces per item and pattern A uses one piece per item).

Four Compartment Disassembly

Setup

Arrange the materials as in the assembly task.

Procedure

- Take one completed box from the storage bin.
- Open the box and hold it in one hand. With the fingers of the other hand, remove the items from each compartment and place them in the appropriate bins.
- Close the box and place it in the other storage bin. Stack the boxes with the front facing the front of the bin in 3 levels with 9 boxes per level.

Norms:

Per unit – 10 seconds Per task (27 units) – 4 minutes, 30 seconds

Quality Criteria

The items must be sorted in the appropriate bins. The 4-compartment boxes must all be empty, closed, and stacked in a red storage bin, the front of the box facing the front of the bin, in 3 levels with 9 boxes per level.

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