

Kanban

THINKLEAN



Takeaway Reference

What is It? An Introduction to Kanban

Simply put, a Kanban is a physical card that signifies a specific request for material.

There are generally two types of Kanban:

Kanban Type	Purpose
Move	Used to request parts from someone who will pull those specific parts and that specific quantity from a storage location such as a parts supermarket
Production	When parts are consumed either through the parts supermarket or directly from the downstream process, a certain unit of consumption would trigger a production kanban card to be sent back to the producing process or would trigger new production.

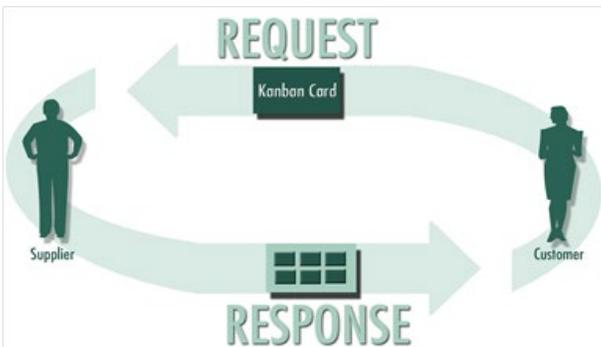
Why Should I Use a Kanban System?

- Clearly connect every customer and supplier.
- Eliminate waste of inventory.
- Establish high agreement of the quantity and timing of parts delivery.
- Deviations from the established and acceptable practice are minimized since the signal indicates that there is only one appropriate response.
- Two people or processes can communicate and operate together with high agreement without working side-by-side.

A sample Kanban Card:

Produced: Operation S-14	Stored: Aisle H-18	Quantity: 100 PCS
Part No. 112A-314 Large Elbow Joint		
User: Operation J-12	Received: Rack R1	Route: Yellow-22

The Request-Response Loop:



How to Use kanban:

Kanban card rules are understood by everyone who touches them	1. The subsequent process should withdraw the necessary products from the preceding process in the necessary quantities at the necessary point in time
	2. The preceding process should produce its products in the quantities withdrawn by the subsequent process
	3. Defective products should never be conveyed to the subsequent process
	4. The number of kanban cards should be minimized
	5. Kanban should be used to adapt to small fluctuations in demand
Kanban card contains all needed information for both the request and responder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part name or number Quantity per card Location to be picked up or produced Location to be delivered or consumed Number and total number of cards in the system (i.e. 2 of 6 cards)