Packing tips

Easy way

Sending books in a good box stuffed with bubblewrap can work but sometimes it doesn't, especially if books still move around in transit.

Auspost boxes aren't very strong so best to pick your own box beforehand.

Watch out for high post costs.

Post costs may be higher if:

- Packing materials are bought at post office: often more expensive than elsewhere.
- box is oversized and / or weight is 5kg +. Then Auspost may use cubing which will increase post cost a lot.

So ok if posting a few books and you get box size / strength, price and packing materials right: some people are very good at sending this way.

Second easiest way

- Pick a good strong used box that'll fit the books and has a bit of room for padding top, bottom and sides. Double boxing is a good idea if you can, as it makes everything stronger and can absorb impact on journey.
- Wrap the books: use lots of bubble wrap or similar [new or second hand …just watch out for old sticky tape on the used stuff!]. Tape up parcel.
- Put parcel in box, padding the bottom and sides of box: shake box to test that the books won't move in post. Much easier to do that if books already fit the box space well.
- If there is movement, brown paper / bubblewrap, soft foam bits etc. work to pad out the spaces in the box and help absorb impact / manhandling during travel.
- Pack top of box with the same kind of thing. Make sure box closes at top so books aren't squished enroute.
- Firmly tape up box and label clearly

Supermarkets, Hardware stores and Bottle shops great to source boxes if you don't have any at home.

Toggo's way (variation on the above)

- Wrap books in polyfoam (that thin white plasticy paper you get in electronics boxes etc). Bubblewrap, brown paper prob. Ok if you don't have any Polyfoam. Tape.
- put wrapped books in a box that fits books very well or cut to size e.g. wine box with middle bit cut out
- bubblewrap or something over box – that helps the box absorb impact if someone drops it or bashes it…
- Tape well and address clearly (see note at end of page 2)

1 Polyfoam or similar

2 wine box cut to size

Toggo cuts wine box to size based on how many books there are to send

3 Bubblewrap box

After bubblewrap, we put books in an Auspost prepaid or flat rate bag and send. Labels for **To:** and **From:** on the above parcel would work just as well as putting in an Auspost bag though.

We send with tracking number too and lodge over post office counter so tracking is updated properly.