

# Keep the Mail Safe

For everyone's protection, use this guide when dealing with hazardous, restricted, and perishable materials.

Hazard Class	Type	Common Examples	Domestic		International	Domestic Mail		Maximum Amount Permitted in Mail	Additional Information	
			Air	Surface		DMM	Pub 52			
<b>Hazard Class 1 Explosives</b>										
	<b>Explosives</b>	Fireworks, dynamite, grenades, small arms ammunition	N	N	N	601.10.11	341.21	601.10.11	All explosives are prohibited except as specified in DMM® 601.11.	
<b>Hazard Class 2 Gases (Under Pressure)</b>										
	<b>Flammable</b>	Hairspray (in aerosol can)	N	Y	N	601.10.12	342.2b	601.10.12	ORM-D or limited quantity only.	
		Propane, camp stove fuel	N	Y	N	601.10.12	342.22c	601.10.12	ORM-D or limited quantity only.	
		Spray paint (in aerosol can)	N	Y	N	601.10.12	342.22f	601.10.12	ORM-D or limited quantity only.	
	<b>Non-Flammable</b>	Fire extinguishers	Y	Y	N	601.10.12	342.22d	601.10.12	Fire extinguishers containing methyl bromide prohibited.	
		Nitrogen, compressed air	Y*	Y	N	601.10.12	342.2b	601.10.12	ORM-D or limited quantity only.	
<b>Toxic</b>	Ammonia, chlorine, carbon monoxide	N	N	N	601.10.12	342.21	601.10.12	All toxic gases are prohibited.		
<b>Hazard Class 3 Flammable and Combustible Liquids</b>										
	<b>Flammable Liquids (Flashpoint not more than 141°F)</b>	Acetone, rubbing alcohol, witch hazel	N	Y	N	601.10.13	343.21	601.10.13	ORM-D or limited quantity only (dependent on flashpoint).	
		Gasoline and items containing gasoline or gasoline fumes	N	N	N	601.10.13	343.23b	None	Gasoline and items containing gasoline or gasoline fumes are always prohibited.	
		Paint, paint-related materials	N	Y	N	601.10.13	343.26	601.10.13	ORM-D or limited quantity only (dependent on flashpoint).	
		Cigarette lighters (flammable liquid)	N	Y	N	601.10.13	343.25	601.10.13	Pre-approval from PCSC required as per DMM.	
	<b>Combustible Liquids (Flashpoint above 141°F &amp; below 200°F)</b>	Diesel fuel, kerosene	Y*	Y	N	601.10.13	343.24e	601.10.13	ORM-D or limited quantity only. Flashpoint must be greater than 141° F.	
		Waxes & polishes	Y*	Y	N	601.10.13	343.24j	601.10.13	ORM-D or limited quantity only (dependent on flashpoint).	
		Adhesives & cements	Y*	Y	N	601.10.13	343.24g	601.10.13	ORM-D or limited quantity only (dependent on flashpoint).	
<b>Hazard Class 4 Flammable Solids</b>										
	<b>Flammable Matches</b>	Book matches	N	Y	N	601.10.14	344.3b	601.10.14	Must be properly packaged.	
	<b>Flammable Matches</b>	Strike anywhere matches	N	N	N	601.10.14	344.21	None	Prohibited	
	<b>Spontaneously Combustible</b>	Iron oxide	N	Y	N	601.10.14	344.1b	601.10.14	ORM-D or limited quantity only.	
	<b>Dangerous When Wet</b>	Aluminum powder, calcium, lithium, sodium	N	Y	N	601.10.14	344.1c	601.10.14	ORM-D or limited quantity only.	
<b>Hazard Class 5 Oxidizing Substances, Organic Peroxides</b>										
	<b>Oxidizers/Organic Peroxides</b>	Ammonium nitrate, fertilizer, swimming pool chemicals	Y*	Y	N	601.10.15	345.22a	601.10.15	ORM-D or limited quantity only – Friction tops unacceptable.	
		Hydrogen peroxide (less than 20% solution)	Y*	Y	N	601.10.15	345.22b	601.10.15	No restrictions up to 8%. Solution strength up to 20% is acceptable, if ORM-D or limited quantity only.	
<b>Hazard Class 6 Toxic Substances</b>										
	<b>Poisons</b>	Tear gas (except those containing oleoresin capsicum)	N	N	N	601.10.16	346.221b	601.10.16	All irritants are prohibited.	
		Flea collars, cyanide, pesticides & herbicides	N*	N	N	601.10.16	346.211	601.10.16	Must check specific materials in Appendix A of Pub 52. ORM-D or limited quantity only.	
	<b>Infectious Substances</b>									
	<b>Noninfectious Specimens</b>	Blood, urine, saliva, stool	Y	Y	Y***	601.10.17	346.233	601.10.17	Must be properly packaged.	
<b>Biological &amp; Medical Materials</b>	Used sharps, medical devices	Y	Y	Y***	601.10.17	346.12	601.10.17	Items must be properly packaged for mailing; some require approval before mailing.		
<b>Hazard Class 7 Radioactive Material</b>										
	<b>Radioactive Materials</b>	Devices containing radioactive materials	N	Y	Y**	601.10.18	347	601.10.18	Items must be properly packaged. International mail requires approval before mailing.	
<b>Hazard Class 8 Corrosives</b>										
	<b>Liquid and Solid</b>	Batteries with liquid electrolyte, hydrochloric acid	N	N	N	601.10.19	348.21a	601.10.19	Nonspillable batteries may be permitted per DMM 601.10.19.4.	
		Mercury, mercury-containing items (thermometer, etc.)	N	N	N	601.10.19	Appendix A	601.10.19	Mercury and items containing mercury are always prohibited.	
<b>Hazard Class 9 Miscellaneous Hazardous Materials</b>										
	<b>Miscellaneous</b>	Dry ice	Y	Y	N	601.10.20.4	349.23	601.10.20.4	5 lbs. maximum for air (surface may exceed 5 lbs.) (Proper forms/warning labels required for air only.)	
		Magnetized materials	Y	Y	Y	601.10.21	349.24	601.10.21	Depends on magnetic strength.	
		Lithium metal battery	Y	Y	Y	601.10.20.5	349.221	601.10.20.5	See the IMM® for international mail restrictions.	
		Lithium ion battery	Y	Y	Y	601.10.20.6	349.222	601.10.20.6	See the IMM for international mail restrictions.	

Y\* See Pub 52 for additional required markings.

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Y\*\*\* Specimens only and with prior HQ permission per IMM and Pub 52.

N\* Except as permitted by mailing rules

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			Air	Surface		DMM	Pub 52		
<b>Restricted Matter</b>									
	<b>Firearms</b>	Handguns (concealable firearms)	N*	N*	N*	601.12.1	43	601.12.1	Except between authorized parties; international mail subject to ICL restrictions/prohibitions. No content markings on outside of mail piece are permitted.
		Rifles, antique guns (unloaded)	Y	Y	Y	601.12.2 601.12.3	43	601.12.2 / 601.12.3	No content markings on outside of mail piece are permitted.
	<b>Human Ashes</b>	Cremated remains	Y	Y	Y	NA	452.2	See Publication 52	Registered Mail™ required. International mail subject to ICL restrictions/prohibitions.
	<b>Intoxicating Liquors</b>	Wine, bourbon, vodka, beer	N	N	N	601.12.7	42	601.12.7	Includes 0.5% alcohol content or greater.
	<b>Motor Vehicle Master Keys</b>	Including locksmithing devices	Y	Y	N	601.12.10	46	601.12.10	Only if sent between authorized parties.
	<b>Odor-Producing Materials</b>	Food, non-toxic inks and dyes, paper	N	N	N	601.12.8	45	601.12.8	Not considered hazardous material.
	<b>Controlled Substances</b>	Narcotics	N*	N*	N	601.12.11	47	601.12.11	Generally, both the mailers and the addressee must meet special conditions.
	<b>Drugs</b>	Prescription, non-prescription medicines	Y	Y	Y	601.12.11	47	601.12.11	No content markings on outside of mail piece permitted. ICL restrictions/prohibition apply for international mail. Must meet state and federal laws.
	<b>Drug Paraphernalia</b>	Illegal drugs, pipes	N	N	N	601.12.12	471.3	601.12.12	See Controlled Substance Act for more information on drug paraphernalia.
	<b>Battery-Powered Devices</b>	Toys, clocks (operated by household-use-type battery)	Y	Y	Y	601.12.17	348	601.12.17	Battery must be permitted by DMM 601.
	<b>Sharp Instruments</b>	Knives, razors, switchblades	Y	Y	Y	601.12.5	44	601.12.5	Only if sent between authorized parties. International mail subject to ICL restrictions/prohibitions.
<b>Perishable Matter Animals</b>									
	<b>Bees</b>	Honey bees (Queen bees)	Y (Queens only)	Y	Y (Queens only)	601.9.3.7	526.2	601.9.3.7	Must be free of disease. Each Queen may be accompanied by up to eight attendant honeybees.
	<b>Adult Birds acceptable</b>	Geese, turkeys, guinea fowl, doves, pigeons, pheasants, partridges, quail, ducks, chickens, swans	Y	Y	N	601.9.3.4	526.4	601.9.3.4	Approved packaging required. Express Mail® only. Each bird must weigh 6 oz. or more.
	<b>Adult Birds unacceptable</b>	All other types of birds not listed above, such as canaries, parakeets, parrots	N	N	N	601.9.3.5	526.4	601.9.3.5	Prohibited
	<b>Day-old Poultry</b>	Chicks, ducks, emus, geese, quail, partridges, pheasants (April through August), turkeys	Y	Y	N	601.9.3.2	526.3	601.9.3.2	Day-old poultry vaccinated with Newcastle disease (live virus) is nonmailable.
	<b>Dead Animals</b>	Dried parts of game birds or fish	Y	Y	N*	601.9.4	526.7	601.9.4	Includes hides and furs. International mail subject to ICL restrictions/prohibitions. If dry ice is used, see DMM 601.10.20.4.
	<b>Live, cold blooded</b>	Goldfish, crickets, worms	Y	Y	N	601.9.3.3	526.6	601.9.3.3	Some exceptions.
	<b>Reptiles</b>	Snakes, turtles	N	N	N	601.8.5b	525.3	601.8.5b	See Pub 52.
	<b>Live, warm blooded</b>	Hamsters, mice, cats, rabbits, dogs, guinea pigs, or rats	N	N	N	601.9.3.5	525.2	601.9.3.5	Some adult birds permitted in domestic mail. See DMM.
	<b>Scorpions (live)</b>	Scorpions	N	Y	N	601.9.3.9	526.5	601.9.3.9	Only for medical research or manufacture of antivenin.
<b>Perishable Matter Food</b>									
	<b>Meats and Meat products</b>	Fresh meat & fish or frozen fish, steaks	Y	Y	N*	601.9.1	55	601.9.1	International mail subject to ICL restrictions/prohibitions. If dry ice is used, see DMM 601.10.20.4.
	<b>Fresh Foods</b>	Fruits, vegetables	Y	Y	N*	601.9.2	53	601.9.2	International mail subject to ICL restrictions/prohibitions. If dry ice is used, see DMM 601.10.20.4.
	<b>Plants</b>	Trees, citrus, cactus	Y	Y	N*	601.9.6	56	601.9.6	International mail subject to ICL restrictions/prohibitions. USDA regulations/prohibitions apply.

DMM *Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service®*, Domestic Mail Manual  
 ICL Individual country listings in International Mail Manual (IMM)  
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For more information about mailability exceptions and technical information, provide customers with telephone number for their local business mail entry unit or have them call 1-800-ASK-USPS.