



# International Shipping Checklist

Whether you're a one-time international shipper, or you're looking to go global with your business, shipping around the world is more complicated than sending a letter to your neighbor down the street. Use this checklist to start your international shipping journey.

## 1 Determine if you can ship your commodity.

Many countries have restrictions regarding what commodities may be shipped across their borders, as well as what services may be used to ship those commodities. FedEx provides detailed information on these restrictions in our [country profiles](#).

Also, double-check the [denied parties list](#) to ensure you are not prohibited from sending a shipment to your recipient.

## 2 Choose your shipping option.

Explore this list of flexible shipping options to find the ideal service for your schedule and budget needs. Shipments less than 150 lbs. are classified as [packages](#) and shipments weighing 150 lbs. or more are classified as [freight](#). Keep in mind that your service choice may affect which international documents you'll need.

## 3 Gather some important info.

Before you begin completing your paperwork, make sure you have the information listed here. It will save you valuable time.

### Confirm your commodity's value.

The accurate and consistent commodity value not only impacts the duties and taxes, but also is required on many customs documents.

### Find your commodity's code in the Harmonized System (HS).

You can use the [HS code search tool online](#) to search for or confirm a code.

### Estimate your duties and taxes.

Use the [estimating tool](#). The country of manufacture of the commodity will influence the duty assessment.

## 4 Complete your documents.

Log in and ship with [FedEx Ship Manager®](#) at [fedex.com](#). It will take you through the required documentation step by step to make sure the process runs as smoothly as possible. Remember to explore [FedEx® Global Trade Manager](#) for additional tools to help with documentation.

### **FedEx® International Air Waybill**

The FedEx International Air Waybill is the primary shipping document for most international shipments.

### **Other international forms**

Other required documents will vary by shipment. You can learn more about them [here](#). Examples of commonly required forms include:

- Certificate of Origin
- Pro Forma Invoice
- Packing List
- Electronic Export Information (EEI)
  - Only if your shipment value is > \$2,500 USD or qualifies under other EEI guidelines.

### **FedEx International Shipping Assist**

Looking for the right documents to ship internationally? FedEx International Shipping Assist is a simple, free service to help businesses and individuals easily get the customs documents they need to ship internationally. All you have to do is complete a simple form with details about what you're shipping, and let us provide the documents you need.

Learn more about how to submit your first document request [here](#).

### **FedEx® Electronic Trade Documents**

For a smoother customs clearance process, transmit your customs documentation electronically with **FedEx Electronic Trade Documents**. This simple, efficient, and reliable solution helps you avoid customs delays and ensure timely delivery of your international packages. You can enable FedEx Electronic Trade Documents in FedEx Ship Manager® at [fedex.com](https://fedex.com).

## **5**

### **Clear customs.**

Getting a shipment through customs in any country can seem complicated, but if you stick to these best practices, you can minimize delays and maximize efficiency.

#### **Best practices:**

- Declare the accurate value of your item, even if it's being provided to the recipient at no charge (i.e., sample or not for resale). The value will be used to assess duties and taxes.
- Keep multiple-piece shipments together, and label each piece of the shipment individually.
- Correctly complete all necessary documents. Keep your answers specific, accurate, and free of spelling errors.
- Make sure information is consistent across all documents.
- List each commodity separately, and provide a detailed, accurate description of each one, including what it's made of and how it will be used.
- Legibly print the commodity's country of origin/manufacture to indicate where your commodity was manufactured, grown, or produced.
- If you're using your own broker, please include their complete contact information.
- Provide phone number or fax information for both the sender and the consignee.

## **6**

### **Let us help.**

Don't hesitate to ask us. Check out our [International Shipping Guide](#) if you have any questions regarding international shipping.

You can also get answers fast by phone. Just call FedEx Customer Service at **1.800.GoFedEx 1.800.463.3339**.