

International Restricted goods

Things that can be carried in international post but with restrictions

Restricted item*	Detailed information
Alcoholic beverages and liquids	<p>Including beer, lager, wine and champagne, with an alcohol content no greater than 24% ABV.</p> <p>Wrap in polythene and seal with tape. Surround with absorbent material such as newspaper and sufficient cushioning material to protect each item from breakage. Volume should not exceed 1 litre per item. Mark as 'FRAGILE' when sending glass bottles. The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.</p> <p>Any alcoholic beverage with alcohol content greater than 24% ABV is prohibited. Please see www.royalmail.com/internationalprohibitedgoods/business.</p>
Batteries - new alkaline, nickel metal hydride (NiMH) or nickel cadmium (NiCd)	<p>Including D, C, 9V, AA, AAA and AAAA alkaline batteries. Must be new and sent unopened in their original retail packaging. Surround with cushioning material e.g. bubble wrap. The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.</p>
Batteries - lithium ion/polymer batteries contained in equipment	<p>Each package must contain no more than four cells or two batteries installed in equipment. The maximum net quantity of cells or batteries is 5kg per package. Watt-hour rating must not exceed 20Wh per cell or 100Wh per battery. Each cell and battery must be of a type proven to meet the requirements of each test in the UN Manual of Tests and Criteria, Part III, section 38.3. Batteries are subject to these tests irrespective of whether the cells of which they are composed have been so tested.</p> <p>Cells and batteries must be manufactured under a quality management programme as specified in the International Civil Aviation Organization's Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air. Cells or batteries that are defective for safety reasons, or that have been damaged, are forbidden. Any person preparing or offering cells or batteries with or in equipment for transport must receive adequate instruction on the requirements commensurate with their responsibilities. Cells and batteries must be protected against short circuit.</p> <p>The equipment containing cells or batteries must be packed in strong rigid packaging and must be secured against movement within the outer packaging and packed to prevent accidental activation. The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.</p> <p>Lithium ion/polymer batteries sent in isolation or sent with but not contained in equipment are prohibited. Please see www.royalmail.com/internationalprohibitedgoods/business</p>

Restricted item*	Detailed information
<p>Batteries - lithium metal/alloy batteries contained in equipment</p>	<p>Each package must contain no more than four cells or two batteries installed in equipment. The maximum net quantity of cells or batteries is 5kg per package. The lithium content must not be more than 1g per cell or 2g per battery. Each cell and battery must be of a type proven to meet the requirements of each test in the UN Manual of Tests and Criteria, Part III, section 38.3. Batteries are subject to these tests irrespective of whether the cells of which they are composed have been so tested.</p> <p>Cells and batteries must be manufactured under a quality management programme as specified in the International Civil Aviation Organization's Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air. Cells or batteries that are defective for safety reasons, or that have been damaged, are forbidden. Any person preparing or offering cells or batteries with or in equipment for transport must receive adequate instruction on the requirements commensurate with their responsibilities. Cells and batteries must be protected against short circuit.</p> <p>The equipment containing cells or batteries must be packed in strong rigid packaging and must be secured against movement within the outer packaging and packed to prevent accidental activation. The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.</p> <p>Lithium metal/alloy batteries sent in isolation or sent with but not contained in equipment are prohibited. Please see www.royalmail.com/internationalprohibitedgoods/business</p>
<p>Christmas crackers</p>	<p>Crackers can only be sent in their complete made-up form and in their original retail packaging.</p>
<p>Counterfeit currency, bank notes and postage stamps</p>	<p>Only copies of old denominations, which are now obsolete and worthless except for collectable value and cannot be passed as tender are allowed.</p> <p>Any false instrument or copy of a false instrument (within the meaning of section 5 of the Forgery and Counterfeiting Act 1981) is prohibited. Please see www.royalmail.com/internationalprohibitedgoods/business</p>
<p>Electronic items sent with new alkaline, nickel metal hydride (NiMH) or nickel cadmium (NiCd) batteries</p>	<p>Must be new and sent unopened in their original retail packaging. Surround with sufficient cushioning material to protect each item from damage. Wrap each item, including plugs, individually.</p> <p>Place item in a rigid container and cushion to avoid movement.</p> <p>Any equipment sent with batteries or cells must be secured against movement within the outer packaging and must be packed to prevent accidental activation. The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.</p>

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<p>Electronic items – sent with lithium ion/polymer batteries contained in equipment</p>	<p>Each package must contain no more than four cells or two batteries installed in equipment. The maximum net quantity of cells or batteries is 5kg per package. Watt-hour rating must not exceed 20Wh per cell or 100Wh per battery. Each cell and battery must be of a type proven to meet the requirements of each test in the UN Manual of Tests and Criteria, Part III, section 38.3. Batteries are subject to these tests irrespective of whether the cells of which they are composed have been so tested.</p> <p>Cells and batteries must be manufactured under a quality management programme as specified in the International Civil Aviation Organization's Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air. Cells or batteries that are defective for safety reasons, or that have been damaged, are forbidden. Any person preparing or offering cells or batteries with or in equipment for transport must receive adequate instruction on the requirements commensurate with their responsibilities. Cells and batteries must be protected against short circuit.</p> <p>The equipment containing cells or batteries must be packed in strong rigid packaging and must be secured against movement within the outer packaging and packed to prevent accidental activation. The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.</p> <p>Lithium ion/polymer batteries sent in isolation or sent with but not contained in equipment are prohibited. Please see www.royalmail.com/internationalprohibitedgoods/business</p>
<p>Electronic items – sent with lithium metal/alloy batteries contained in equipment</p>	<p>Each package must contain no more than four cells or two batteries installed in equipment. The maximum net quantity of cells or batteries is 5kg per package. The lithium content must not be more than 1g per cell or 2g per battery. Each cell and battery must be of a type proven to meet the requirements of each test in the UN Manual of Tests and Criteria, Part III, section 38.3. Batteries are subject to these tests irrespective of whether the cells of which they are composed have been so tested.</p> <p>Cells and batteries must be manufactured under a quality management programme as specified in the International Civil Aviation Organization's Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air. Cells or batteries that are defective for safety reasons, or that have been damaged, are forbidden. Any person preparing or offering cells or batteries with or in equipment for transport must receive adequate instruction on the requirements commensurate with their responsibilities. Cells and batteries must be protected against short circuit.</p> <p>The equipment containing cells or batteries must be packed in strong rigid packaging and must be secured against movement within the outer packaging and packed to prevent accidental activation. The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.</p> <p>Lithium ion/polymer batteries sent in isolation or sent with but not contained in equipment are prohibited. Please see www.royalmail.com/internationalprohibitedgoods/business</p>
<p>Guns for sporting use</p>	<p>Guns intended for sporting purposes - including Section 1 and Section 2 firearms,</p>

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	<p>low-powered air guns and their component parts - may be sent in compliance with UK law and subject to applicable export controls on the shipment of firearms. The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.</p>
Lighters	<p>New and unused empty lighters may be sent unopened in their original retail packaging. The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.</p> <p>Lighters and refills containing flammable liquid or gas (including used butane and petrol cigar and cigarette lighters) are prohibited. Please see www.royalmail.com/internationalprohibitedgoods/business</p>
Living creatures, insects and invertebrates	<p>Including bees, caterpillars, cockroaches, crickets, destroyers of noxious pests, earthworms, fish fry and eggs, leeches and other parasites, lugworms, maggots, mealworms, pupae and chrysalides, rag worms, silkworms, spiders and stick insects.</p> <p>Must be boxed and packaged to protect the creatures, our staff and our customers from harm. Items must be clearly marked 'URGENT – LIVING CREATURES - HANDLE WITH CARE'. The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.</p> <p>Live animals and reptiles are prohibited, as are any creatures or insects classified as dangerous within the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 (including certain venomous spiders). Please see www.royalmail.com/internationalprohibitedgoods/business</p>
Magnetised materials (other than those that are prohibited)	<p>Should be wrapped in soft packaging at least 2cm thick around each item. The sender's name and address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.</p> <p>Magnetised material with a magnetic field strength of 0.418A/m or more at a distance of 4.6m from the outside of the package are prohibited, Please see www.royalmail.com/internationalprohibitedgoods/business</p>
Prescription medicines and drugs sent for scientific purposes	<p>May only be sent by, or at the specific request of, a qualified medical practitioner, registered dental practitioner, veterinary surgeon, registered nurse or a recognised laboratory or institution.</p> <p>Medicines classified as non-flammable or non-toxic must be securely closed and placed in a leak-proof container such as a sealed polythene bag (for liquids) or a siftproof container (for solids). Must be tightly packed in strong outer packaging and must be secured or cushioned to prevent any damage. The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.</p> <p>Medicines classified as flammable, toxic or flammable and toxic are prohibited. Please see www.royalmail.com/internationalprohibitedgoods/business</p>

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Radioactive material and samples that are not classified as dangerous goods in the latest edition of the Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air published by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) such as samples of granite rock.	Surround with cushioning material e.g. bubble wrap. The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.
Sharp objects	Sharp objects like knives, kitchen utensils and gardening tools may only be posted if they are packaged appropriately so that they are no risk to employees, other postal items or recipients.
Vaccines	<p>May only be sent by, or at the specific request of, a qualified medical practitioner, registered dental practitioner, veterinary surgeon, registered nurse or a recognised laboratory or institution.</p> <p>The vaccines must be securely closed and placed in a leak-proof liner such as a sealed polythene bag (for liquids) or a sift-proof container (for solids). Must be tightly packed in strong outer packaging and must be secured or cushioned to prevent any damage. The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.</p>
Water-based paints, wood varnishes and enamels	The items must be securely closed and placed in a leak-proof liner, such as a sealed polythene bag, so that any inadvertent leakage is contained within the outer packaging. Surround with absorbent material such as newspaper and sufficient cushioning material to protect each item from damage. Volume per item should not exceed 150ml. No more than four items can be sent in any one package. The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.

***The Postal service provider reserve the right to refuse any other item banned by law or that in their opinion may be harmful or dangerous to their customers or employees. If you send dangerous goods and do not comply with the applicable terms and conditions and legal requirements then they may deal with the goods as they see fit including destroying or disposing of the relevant goods. The sending of dangerous goods via post is in breach of transport regulations, failure to comply with legal requirements for the transport of dangerous goods is a criminal offence.**