Guide to Prohibited and Restricted Goods

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About this guide

This guide helps anyone sending items of mail, using our service, to understand what can and can't be sent.

What are prohibited and restricted goods?

There are certain things that for health, safety and environmental reasons you are not permitted to send through the postal network. These are termed 'Prohibited Goods' and must never be sent or received using our Postal Service. Other things are allowed, but only if appropriately packaged and labelled. These are termed 'Restricted Goods' and can be sent or received using our Postal Service providing you follow the rules contained in this guide.

The rules on Prohibited and Restricted goods are principally set by national and international authorities, such as the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and Department for Transport (DfT). The list changes from time-to-time, so it's important to consult the latest version of this document when sending anything you may not be familiar with.

Following the rules is in everyone's interest

Prohibited Goods or unmarked Restricted Goods sent through the postal network can pose a risk to those who have to handle and transport them, to other items in the postal network and to the environments they pass through. So following the rules is in everyone's interest.

If we discover things considered Prohibited or Restricted without the correct labelling or packaging, we may dispose of or destroy them. We may ask you to cover the cost of this, if specialised advice or facilities are needed. We explain this further in our General Terms and Conditions, found on our website or available on request.

We may also advise the appropriate authorities, which may result in the person sending Prohibited Goods or unmarked Restricted Goods being prosecuted. Please don't take the risk...

Not sure?

















Information on Prohibited and Restricted Goods

| Aerosols | 4 | Human or animal remains | 9 |
|---|---|--|----------|
| Alcoholic beverages and liquids | 4 | Infectious substances and pathogens Lighters | 9 |
| Ammunition | 4 | Lighters | 9 |
| Asbestos | 4 | Liquids | 9 |
| Balloons | 4 | Live animals/creatures | 9 |
| Batteries | 4 | Lottery tickets | 10 |
| Biological substances – (Category B) | 6 | Magnetised material | 10 |
| Christmas crackers | 6 | Mobile Phones | 10 |
| Clinical and medical waste | 6 | Nail varnish, polish and gel (solvent and water based) | 10 |
| Controlled drugs and narcotics Corrosives | 6 | Obscene publications and unlawful | 10 |
| Counterfeit currency, bank notes and postage stamps | 6 | indecent images Oxidising materials and organic peroxides | 10 10 |
| Dry ice | 7 | Paints | 10 |
| Electronic items | 7 | Perfume and aftershave | 11 |
| Environmental waste | 7 | Perishables | 11 |
| Explosives | 7 | Pesticides | 11 |
| Flammable goods | 8 | Poisons, toxic liquids, solids or gases | 11 |
| Frozen water | 8 | Medicines | 11 |
| Gases | 8 | Radioactive material and samples | 11 |
| Glass | 8 | Sharp objects | 12 |
| Goods made in foreign prisons | 8 | Tickets and related advertisements | 12 |
| Guns for sporting use | 8 | for illegal lotteries Vaccines | 12 |
| Human or animal samples | 8 | Waste, dirt, filth or refuse | 12 |
| | | Weapons | 12 |



Aerosols

Aerosols for personal grooming or medicinal purposes Such as deodorants, body sprays, hair sprays, shaving and hair removal creams, asthma inhalers, medical aerosols such as flea sprays.

International addresses:

All other aerosols



Such as spray paints, lacquers, solvents, air fresheners, oven cleaners, etc.

International addresses:



Alcoholic beverages and liquids

Alcoholic beverages and liquids - 24% ABV or less Such as beer, wine, fortified wine, champagne, etc.

International addresses:



Always use the following quantity, packing and labelling rules:

Volume per item should not exceed 1 litre. Cushion against damage with absorbent material, wrap in polythene and seal with tape. Mark as 'FRAGILE' when sending glass bottles. The sender's name and return address should be is clearly visible on the outer packaging.

Alcoholic beverages and liquids - More than 24% ABV but not more than 70% ABV)

Such as some whiskies, vodkas, spirits and liqueurs.

International addresses:



Always use the following quantity, packing and labelling rules:

Alcoholic beverages and liquids - Greater than 70% ABV Such as some whiskies, vodkas, spirits and liqueurs.

International addresses:



Ammunition

Excluding lead pellets and other airgun and airsoft projectiles.

International addresses:



Asbestos

International addresses:



Balloons

Filled with non-flammable gas.

International addresses:



Batteries

Batteries - New alkaline metal, nickel metal hydride (NiMH) or nickel cadmium (NiCd)

Including D, C, 9V, AA, AAA and AAAA alkaline batteries.

International addresses:



Always use the following quantity, packing and labelling

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.

Batteries - New and used lithium ion and lithium polymer not contained in equipment

Including mobile phone, digital camera and laptop batteries sent as replacements.

International addresses:



Batteries - Lithium ion/polymer sent with equipment Rechargeable batteries sent with electronic devices, for example, including mains powered battery charges but excluding battery packs.





Batteries - Lithium ion/polymer contained in equipment

Rechargeable batteries found in electronic devices for example.

International addresses:



Always use the following quantity, packing and labelling rules:

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. Cells and batteries must be manufactured under a quality management programme as specified in the ICAO 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. 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. Each package must have a lithium battery warning label placed on it.

Batteries - New and used lithium metal and lithium alloy

Lithium metal/batteries when not sent with or contained in equipment, including D, C, AA, AAA, AAAA, A23, 9-Volt, CR2032 and LR44 batteries as replacements.

International addresses:



Batteries - Lithium metal/alloy sent with equipment Non-rechargeable batteries sent with electronic devices for example.

International addresses:



Batteries - Lithium metal/alloy contained in equipment

Non-rechargeable batteries found installed in electronic devices for example.

International addresses:



Always use the following quantity, packing and labelling rules:

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. Cells and batteries must be manufactured under a quality management programme as specified in the ICAO 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. 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.

Each package must have a lithium battery warning label placed on it.

Batteries - new wet, non-spillable Sealed lead acid batteries, absorbed glass mat and gel cell batteries for example.

International addresses:



Batteries - Wet spillable lead acid/lead alkaline Car batteries for example.





Batteries classified as dangerous goods and certain used batteries

Batteries that are classified as dangerous goods by the latest edition of the Technical Instructions for Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air published by the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) including wet spillable lead acid/lead alkaline batteries (such as

car batteries), lithium batteries when not sent with or in equipment, used alkaline metal, nickel metal hydride (NiMH), nickel cadium (NiCd) and zinc-air batteries and damaged batteries of any type.

International addresses:



Batteries - Lithium ion/polymer/metal/alloy when not sent with, or contained in/connected to an electronic device

International addresses:



Biological substances – (Category B)

Diagnostic specimens including blood, urine, faeces and animal remains. Category B (UN3373) as classified in the latest edition of the Technical Instructions for Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air published by the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO).

International addresses:



Bladed Items

Bladed Articles and Bladed Products as defined by Offensive Weapons Act 2019, including, but not limited to, any knife (including a folding pocket knife), any knife blade, cutlery knife, scissors with sharp edges or points and sporting equipment with a blade.

International addresses:



Christmas crackers

International addresses:



Always use the following quantity, packing and labelling rules:

Can only be sent in their complete made-up form in their original retail packaging. The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.

Clinical and medical waste

Including contaminated dressings, bandages and needles.

International addresses:



Controlled drugs and narcotics

Including cannabis, cocaine, heroin, LSD, opium and amyl nitrate

International addresses:



Corrosives

Substances which can cause severe damage to living tissue, other freight or transport by its chemical action are prohibited (including dyes, acids, corrosive paint and rust removers, caustic soda, mercury and gallium metal).

International addresses:



Counterfeit currency, bank notes and postage stamps

Prohibited except copies of old denominations, which are now obsolete and worthless except for collectable value and cannot be passed as tender.





Dry ice

UN1845 when used as a coolant for UN3373 or for other perishable items for example.

International addresses:



Electronic items

Electronic items - Sent with new alkaline metal, nickel metal hydride (NiMH) or nickel cadmium (NiCd) batteries

Including D, C, 9V, AA, AAA and AAAA alkaline metal batteries .

International addresses:



Always use the following quantity, packing and labelling rules:

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. Place item in a rigid container and cushion to avoid movement. 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.

Electronic items sent with lithium metal and lithium alloy batteries Where the battery is not connected to/contained in the device.

International addresses:

Electronic devices connected to lithium batteries Including mobile phones, digital cameras, etc., where the battery is connected to the device.

International addresses:



Always use the following quantity, packing and labelling rules:

Each parcel must contain no more than four cells or two batteries installed in a device. For lithium-ion/ polymer batteries, the Watt-hour rating must not exceed 20Wh per cell or 100Wh per battery. For lithium metal/alloy batteries, the lithium content must not be more than 1g per cell or 2g per battery. The maximum net quantity of cells or batteries is 5kg per parcel. 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. Cells or batteries that are defective or damaged are forbidden. 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 visible on the parcel.

Electronic items containing any batteries exceeding 100Wh Including some high performance laptops and power tools.

International addresses:



Environmental waste

Including used batteries and used engine oil.

International addresses:



Explosives

Including ammunition, blasting caps, Christmas cracker snaps, fireworks, flares, fuses, igniters, nitro-glycerine and party poppers.

International addresses:



Any chemical compound, mixture or device capable of producing an explosive or pyrotechnic effect with substantial instantaneous release of heat and gas is prohibited.

Items that appear to be prohibited explosive ordnance may be subject to additional checks and delays.



Flammable goods

Flammable liquids

Including acetone, benzene, cleaning compounds, lighter fuel, paint thinners and removers, petroleum, solvents, varnishes, enamels and nail varnish removers.

International addresses:



This includes mixtures of liquids or liquids containing solids in solution or suspension which give off a flammable vapour.

Nail varnish, perfume and aftershaves are allowed in the UK but subject to packaging, volume, quantity and labelling restrictions.

Flammable solids

Including adhesives, calcium carbide, cellulose nitrate products, fire lighters, matches, metallic magnesium, nitro-cellulose based film, phoshorous, potassium, sodium, sodium hydride, zinc powder, zirconium hydride.

International addresses:



Solid materials which are liable to cause fire by friction, absorption of water, spontaneous chemical changes or retained heat from manufacturing or processing or which can be readily ignited and burn vigorously.

Frozen water

Including packs of ice.

International addresses:



Gases

Including flammable, non-flammable, toxic and compressed gases, new, used and empty gas cylinders, butane, ethane, refills for lighters, fire extinguishers and scuba tanks, life jackets, nitrogen dioxide and carbon dioxide canisters, culinary foaming devices and soda stream.

International addresses:



- 1. All flammable compressed gases are prohibited e.g. blowlamps, butane, lighters and refills containing flammable liquid or gas, ethane, gas cylinders for camping stoves, hydrogen, methane and propane.
- 2. All toxic compressed gases are prohibited e.g. chlorine, fluorine, etc.
- 3. All non-flammable compressed gases are prohibited

e.g. air bags, scuba tanks, carbon dioxide, fire extinguishers, neon and nitrogen.

Glass

We recommend that any item containing glass, is shipped through a specialist glass carrying agent. We will not accept any claims against items where the glass component is broken. Additional insurance should not be taken out against items that contain glass and the package will be accepted without liability and at the sender's risk.

International addresses:



Goods made in foreign prisons

Except those imported for a non-commercial purpose, of a kind not manufactured in the UK, or those in transit.

International addresses:



Guns for sporting use

Including guns intended for sporting purposes - including hunting rifle and shotgun firearms, low-powered air weapons and their component parts.

International addresses:



May be sent in accordance with Jersey law and subject to domestic controls on the possession of firearms. Antiques, deactivated and imitation firearms are also permitted. When sending deactivated firearms include proof of deactivation. Items that appear to be prohibited weapons may be subject to additional checks and delays. The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.

Human or animal samples

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 institution.



Always use the following quantity, packing and labelling rules:

The total sample volume/mass in any parcel must not exceed 1kg. All human or animal samples must be posted in packaging that complies with Packing Instruction 650 such as Safebox product. The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.

Liquids

We recommend that any item containing liquid, is shipped through a specialist liquid carrying agent and not through the general mail. Liquid may be accepted on medical grounds, or in limited quantities, but only under the express permission.

International addresses:



Human or animal remains

Including ashes.

International addresses:



Infectious substances and pathogens

UN2814 or UN2900 - Including ebola, anthrax, foot and mouth diseases.

International addresses:



Category A Infectious Substances are prohibited as detailed in the latest edition of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Technical Instructions.

Lighters

New and unused empty lighters

International addresses:



Always use the following quantity, packing and labelling rules:

New and used empty lighters may be sent unopened in their original retail packaging. Lighters and refills containing flammable liquid gas (including used butane, petrol cigar and cigarette lighters) are prohibited. The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.

Lighters or refills containing flammable liquid or gas including used butane and petrol cigar and cigarette lighters International addresses:



Live animals

Live animals and reptiles Including snakes, mice and rodents, except certain insects.

International addresses:



Live creatures, insects and invertebrates 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.

International addresses:



Always use the following quantity, packing and labelling rules:

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'. Dead insects, sent as collectables, are also allowed. Live animals and reptiles are prohibited, as are any creatures or insects classified as dangerous within the Dangerous Wild Animals Act according to IOM law (including certain venomous spiders). The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.

Live creatures, insects and invertebrates classified as dangerous within the Dangerous Wild Animals Act Including certain venomous spiders.







Lottery tickets

International addresses:



Nail varnish, polish and gel (solvent and water based)

International addresses:



Magnetised material

Other than those that are prohibited (including loud speakers).

International addresses:



Always use the following quantity, packing and labelling rules:

Wrap soft packing material at least 2cm thick around each item. The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.

Magnetised material with a magnetic field strength of $0.418\,\text{A/m}$ or more at a distance of $4.6\,\text{m}$ from the outside of the package

Including certain Public Address systems.

International addresses:



Matches Including safety and windproof matches.

International addresses:



Mobile phones

International addresses:



Always use the following quantity, packing and labelling rules:

Mobile phones must be covered by additional insurance to the value of the phone, if new and unopened, or to the value of the phone in the 2nd hand market, if the phone is subject to a resale. All phones must be securely packaged and shipped in a plain container. We will not accept liability for any claim where the recipient suggests that the phone is missing from the packaging, but the packaging was not intercepted by local postal authorities.

Obscene publications and unlawful indecent images

Including obscene and extreme pornography, and indecent photographs or pseudo photographs of a child as detailed within Jersey law.

International addresses:



Oxidising materials and organic peroxides

Including disinfectants, nitrates and hair dyes or colourants containing peroxide.

International addresses:



These are substances such as disinfectants that may cause or contribute to combustion of other substances. They may also be liable to explosive decomposition, react dangerously with other substances and injure health e.g. bromides, chlorates, components of fibreglass repair kits, disinfectants, nitrates, per chlorates, permanganates and peroxides, including hair dyes and colourants containing peroxide.

Paints

Wood varnishes and enamels - solvent-based Except nail varnish or nail polish with a volume of 30ml or less when sent to a UK destination.

International addresses:



Paints, wood stains and enamels - water-based





Always use the following quantity, packing and labelling rules:

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.

Perfume and aftershave

Including eau de parfum and eau de toilette but excluding nonflammable perfumed creams, gels, oils or lotions.

International addresses:



Perishables

Including flowers, fresh fruit, vegetables and frozen or chilled foodstuffs.

International addresses:



Pesticides

Including weed killer and any chemical used to kill pests and insects, such as fly sprays.

International addresses:



Poisons, toxic liquids, solids or gases

Including substances that are liable to cause death or injury if swallowed or inhaled or by skin contact, such as arsenic, beryllium, cyanide, fluorine, rat poison.

International addresses:



Prescription medicines

Prescription medicines and drugs sent for scientific or medical purposes (non-toxic and non-flammable)

International addresses:



Always use the following quantity, packing and labelling rules:

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. 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 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.

Medicines classified as flammable, toxic or flammable and toxic are prohibited

International addresses:



Radioactive material and samples

Radioactive materials and samples that are classified as radioactive using Table 2-12 of the latest edition of the International Civil Aviation Organisation's Technical Instructions e.g. fissile material (uranium 235, etc.) radioactive waste material, thorium or uranium ores and luminous dials from aircraft.



Sharp objects

Such as 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.

International addresses:



Always use the following quantity, packing and labelling rules:

Wrap heavy cardboard around sharp edges and points, strong enough to ensure that the contents do not pierce the outer packaging. Wrap each item with cushioning material. Place in a suitable outer container such as a padded envelope. The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.

The sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging. Sharp objects and instruments (including scissors and kitchen knives or utensils).

Tickets and related advertisements for illegal lotteries

International addresses:



Vaccines

International addresses:



Always use the following quantity, packing and labelling rules:

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. 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.

Waste, dirt, filth or refuse

Including household waste and rubbish.

International addresses:



Always use the following quantity, packing and labelling rules:

Note soil samples sent for analysis are permitted provided they are packaged so that any leaks and spills are contained in the outer packaging.

Weapons

Including under Jersey law firearms (e.g. handguns, machine guns), CS gas and pepper sprays, flick knives, and other knives that are banned knives under IOM laws, tasers and stun guns.

International addresses:



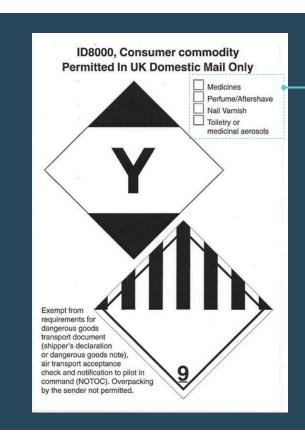
Items that appear to be prohibited weapons may be subject to additional checks and delays. Guns for sporting use under IOM law (e.g. hunting rifles and shotguns) firearms and low-powered air weapons may be sent in compliance with Jersey law and subject to domestic controls on possession of firearms.





Make sure your items are labelled correctly

For packages which need to be labelled with an ID8000 label or a Lithium battery handling label please follow the instructions below:



Consumer Commodity in UK Mail label (ID8000)

- Label must be 99 x 139mm in size
- Tick the relevant box according to the contents of the package. If sending multiple items, tick all the boxes that apply.
- Apply the label securely and visibly to the outer packaging.



Lithium battery handling label

- Label must be 120 x 110mm (large packages) or 74 x 105mm (on packages which are too small to bear larger labels) in size
- Write or print the word 'metal' or 'ion' in the space after Lithium to indicate the type of battery contained within the package
- Include a contact telephone number
- Apply the label securely and visibly to your outer packaging.