Commercial - Priority Mail



Physical Standards (201.7.0)

Maximum weight: 70 pounds.

■ Commercial Plus Cubic — 20 pounds

Maximum length and girth: 108 inches.

Prices and Fees (223.1.0)

For a complete listing of commercial Priority Mail prices, see Notice 123-Price List.

Except for Flat Rate packaging, balloon, or dimensional weight, and commercial plus cubic items, Priority Mail commercial prices are based on weight and zone. Mailpieces are charged per pound; any fraction of a pound is rounded up to the next whole pound, except for Priority Mail commercial plus items that weigh up to a 1/2 pound are charged the 1/2-pound price.

Dimensional Weight Price: Postage for parcels addressed for delivery to zones 1-9 and exceeding 1 cubic foot (1,728 cubic inches) is based on the actual weight or the dimensional weight, whichever is greater. (See QSG 120 for examples on how to measure dimensional weight.)

Matter mailed in USPS-produced Priority Mail packaging is charged one flat price regardless how much the item weighs (up to 70 pounds) or domestic destination. Only USPS-produced Flat Rate packaging is eligible for Priority Mail Flat Rate pricing. For a complete list of Flat Rate packaging items, see the Flat Rate Quick Reference section of Notice 123-Price List. Customers must only use USPS-produced Flat Rate Envelopes at the applicable Flat Rate Envelope price. USPS-produced packaging, including Flat Rate containers, is not eligible for shipping mailable hazardous materials or live animals.

eVS Unmanifested Fee: Eligible eVS Priority Mail pieces omitted from the eVS manifest are subject to the eVS Unmanifested fee (see Notice 123–Price List), unless the piece is subject to the IMpb noncompliance fee.

Nonstandard Fees: Except for Flat Rate packaging and Priority Mail Return service packages, a Priority Mail piece is subject to a nonstandard fee if it measures:

- More than 22 inches up to 30 inches long;
- More than 30 inches long; or
- More than 2 cubic feet (3,456 cubic inches).

Dimension-Noncompliance Fee: Mailers of Priority Mail mailpieces required to include the mailpiece dimensions (length, width, height) in the Shipping Services file manifest or other approved electronic documentation under 223.1.4.3 or 223.1.10 will be charged a dimension-noncompliance fee if the piece's dimensions are omitted or inaccurate in the Shipping Service's file manifest or other approved electronic documentation.

Content (223.2.0)

Unless Priority Mail Express is used, Priority Mail prices are required for a mailpiece that weighs more than 13 ounces when the mailpiece contains matter that must be mailed as First-Class Mail (233.2.0). All mailable matter may be sent as Priority Mail, except matter prohibited by standards (e.g., certain hazardous materials) (601.8.0).

Postage Payment and Documentation (224)

Commercial prices are available for postage paid through:

- USPS Click-N-Ship.
- Registered end-users of USPS-approved PC Postage products when using a qualifying shipping label managed by the PC Postage system.
- Customers using permit imprint.
- Priority Mail Open and Distribute (PMOD) using permit imprint with a qualifying address label under 705.18.5.7.
- Information-based indicia (IBI) postage meters that print the IBI with the appropriate price marking and electronically transmit transactional data to USPS.
- USPS Returns service for Priority Mail when all requirements are met under 505.3.0.

Cubic prices are available to customers who are:

- Registered end-users of USPS-approved PC Postage products.
- Permit imprint customers who use the Electronic Verification System (eVS) or submit an electronic postage statement with a computerized manifest.

Priority Mail pieces with postage paid through a PC Postage system must bear an Intelligent Mail package barcode prepared under 204.2.0.

Postage Statement: PS Form 3600-PM; other documentation may be required by standards for payment method used. No postage statement is required if metered postage is affixed.

Mail Preparation (225)

Matter mailed in USPS-produced Priority Mail packaging is subject to Priority Mail prices regardless of how the package is reconfigured or how the marking may be obliterated.

DMM © USPS, Page 1, April 1, 2024

Commercial - Priority Mail

Quick Service Guide

When sealing Flat Rate packaging, the container flaps must be able to close within the normal folds. Tape may be applied to the flaps and seams to reinforce the container provided the design of the container is not enlarged by opening the sides and the container is not reconstructed in any way.

Each piece must include a complete delivery and return address with the correct ZIP Code or ZIP+4 code (602.1.0).

All commercial Priority Mail pieces (except letter and flat-size pieces entered under an authorization to use an Intelligent Mail barcode [IMb]) must meet the requirements for use of unique Intelligent Mail package barcodes (IMpb) or an extra service IMpb. Mailpieces not meeting this requirement will be assessed an IMpb noncompliance fee as outlined in Publication 199, available on PostalPro at https://postalpro.usps.com.

Marking on each piece: "Priority Mail" must be placed prominently on the address side of each mailpiece. Except for permit imprint or USPS Returns service, the following price markings are required in the postage area (225.2.0):

- Cubic Price with PC Postage (225.2.0): Mailpieces must bear the appropriate marking that reflects the respective price tier as follows:
 - Cubic .10
 - Cubic .20
 - Cubic .30
 - Cubic .40
 - Cubic .50
- Cubic Price with permit imprint (225.2.0): "Cubic," "CUBIC," or "cubic."

Enter and Deposit (226)

Deposit: Packages with IBI metered postage, or PC Postage may be deposited in collection boxes or at an acceptance point designated by USPS.

Delivery: At the mailer's option, uninsured mail may be left in a protected place if endorsed "Carrier-Leave If No Response" (508.1.1.8).

Open and Distribute Shipments: see 705.18.0.