

## Shipping Books & Other Printed Materials Abroad

The least expensive way to ship printed matter is through the US Postal Service ([www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com)), though express shipping companies will also ship books and printed materials, including

- DHL ([www.dhl.com](http://www.dhl.com)) e
- Airborne Express ([www.airborneexpress.com](http://www.airborneexpress.com))
- FedEx ([www.fedex.com](http://www.fedex.com))
- UPS ([www.ups.com](http://www.ups.com))

USPS First Class Mail must be no heavier than 4 pounds, and Parcel Post packages no heavier than 70 pounds.

### Mail Bags

All categories of printed matter can be enclosed in a M-bag. Printed matter is defined as “paper on which words, letters, characters, figures, images, or any combination thereof, not having the character of a bill or statement of account, or of actual or personal correspondence, have been reproduced by any process other than handwriting or typewriting.” Journals, magazines, and dissertations are considered printed matter, but anything handwritten—including class notes and correspondence—is not. Books are defined as “bound volumes, double-stapled, 24 pages or more, 22 of which are printed, which contain chiefly reading material and no advertising. They can be soft cover.” **There are different rates for books and printed matter, so the two should be packed separately.**

### Requirements

- There is no minimum weight for M-bags, though all bags will be charged at least the 11-pound rate.
- The maximum weight of an M-bag, including the bag itself, is 66 pounds.
- M-bags can be sent to any country by airmail or economy ground mail.

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