

A Simpler Way™ to Ship

The holidays are busy. Here is how to ship and send all your gifts in just a few quick steps!

Tips:

- Use the ZIP Code™ tool on usps.com and the mobile app to find a ZIP Code quick.
- Use popped popcorn in a bag as an eco-friendly cushion for fragile gifts.
- Visit The Postal Store® on usps.com for stamps, gifts and shipping needs.
- Be careful when reusing boxes — they can become weak. Use a Priority Mail® Flat Rate Box or holiday-themed ReadyPost® option.
- Use Priority Mail Express™ for last-minute shipping. Dec. 23 is the last day to ship to most domestic destinations for a Dec. 25 arrival.

How to pack a gift like a pro:

1. Pick a strong and sturdy box, and tape it closed tightly.
2. Cushion contents to protect them during transportation, and wrap glass and other fragile items with extra newspaper or packing material.
3. Place wrapped gift boxes inside a plain larger box.
4. Remove all batteries from electronics.
5. Remember to place an extra shipping label inside the box, so the item can be returned in case the box or label gets damaged.

Successful shipping tips:

1. Print addresses clearly and in CAPS.
2. Include complete 'to' and 'from' info.
3. Check usps.com for the correct ZIP Code — never guess.
4. Be sure to label a box as 'FRAGILE' if it needs to be handled with extra care.
5. Visit usps.com to pay and print postage and schedule a pickup, or drop off your gift for delivery at the Post Office™.

Visit usps.com to ship and send in just a few clicks:

1. Order free Priority Mail Flat Rate® Boxes and other eligible supplies, and have them delivered to your home or office for no extra charge.
2. Order 2013 holiday stamps for your cards and letters.
3. Receive a discount at checkout on select products when you print, prepare and pay for shipping labels with Click-N-Ship®.
4. Schedule a next day Package Pickup for no extra charge.

Ship gifts across the globe without leaving home:

1. Use the Postage Calculator tool on usps.com to check prices and compare options.
2. Visit usps.com to complete a customs form and pay the postage.
3. Print your shipping label.
4. Schedule a free next day Package Pickup, or drop off your gift at your local Post Office.

Want to give your readers more holiday shipping tips this season? Arrange an interview with USPS Consumer Advocate Krista Finazzo. Email Lindsay.N.Richardson@usps.gov for details.

For details on Package Pickup, visit usps.com/pickup.

