

2014 USPS® Media Mail® Rate Guide

What is Media Mail?

Media Mail is a USPS mail class restricted to the delivery of books, film, audio and other recorded media. The mail class is also known as “Book Rate” among book sellers.

When is Media Mail the cheapest shipping option?

Generally, Media Mail is the cheapest USPS mail class for shipping heavy items up to 70 lbs. However if you’re shipping packages that weigh 6 ounces or less, First-Class™ Package Service offers the lowest cost along with delivery in 2 to 3 days. First-Class Package Service also includes free USPS Tracking™.



Rate comparisons for First-Class Package Service vs. Media Mail

= Cheapest shipping options

Weight not over	First-Class Package Service Includes Free USPS Tracking	Media Mail, 1 lb. USPS Tracking included for \$0.23
1 ounce	\$2.32	\$2.69 + \$0.23 = \$2.92
2 ounces	\$2.32	\$2.69 + \$0.23 = \$2.92
3 ounces	\$2.32	\$2.69 + \$0.23 = \$2.92
4 ounces	\$2.50	\$2.69 + \$0.23 = \$2.92
5 ounces	\$2.68	\$2.69 + \$0.23 = \$2.92
6 ounces	\$2.86	\$2.69 + \$0.23 = \$2.92
7 ounces	\$3.04	\$2.69 + \$0.23 = \$2.92
8 ounces	\$3.22	\$2.69 + \$0.23 = \$2.92
9 ounces	\$3.40	\$2.69 + \$0.23 = \$2.92
10 ounces	\$3.58	\$2.69 + \$0.23 = \$2.92
11 ounces	\$3.76	\$2.69 + \$0.23 = \$2.92
12 ounces	\$3.94	\$2.69 + \$0.23 = \$2.92
13 ounces	\$4.12	\$2.69 + \$0.23 = \$2.92
14 ounces	Not Available	\$2.69 + \$0.23 = \$2.92
15 ounces	Not Available	\$2.69 + \$0.23 = \$2.92
16 ounces	Not Available	\$2.69 + \$0.23 = \$2.92
2 to 70 pounds	Not Available	\$3.17 to \$34.55 (plus USPS Tracking)

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All prices listed are Commercial Base rates (effective January 2014), only available for online postage vendors such as Stamps.com.

Media Mail CAN be used for:

- Books that contain at least 8 pages (cannot contain any form of advertising).
- 16-millimeter or narrower width films, video and sound recordings.
- Manuscripts and printed music, either bound or in sheet form.
- Computer-readable media such as diskettes, CD-ROMs, and DVDs.
- Recorded CDs and DVDs. Also, video game CDs and DVDs (only) are acceptable.
- Printed educational reference material designed to instruct or train individuals.
- Medical information for doctors, hospitals, medical schools, and medical students.

Media Mail CANNOT be used for:

- Game cartridges or game consoles (e.g. PlayStation or Nintendo game consoles and video game cartridges) that contain a computer chip.
- Blank Media such as blank CDs, DVDs, audio tapes and/or video tapes.
- Video Tapes with advertising (trailers for movies are not considered advertising).
- Photographs or photo albums.
- Trading Cards, such as sports and hobby cards.
- Films sent to or from commercial movie theaters.

Media Mail Package Inspection:

All packages sent using Media Mail are eligible to be opened by a USPS employee to confirm contents. Any package found carrying material that is ineligible for Media Mail rates will be sent back to the sender with a possible fine and other postal charges included.

Media Mail Details:

Pricing:	Based on weight (pounds)
Delivery time:	2 to 9 days, but no guarantee
International Delivery:	No
Package Weight:	70 lbs. maximum
Package Size:	The maximum size is 108 inches in combined length and girth
Carrier Pick-Up:	Not eligible unless a Priority Mail® or Priority Mail Express™ package is being picked-up

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