Airline & Baggage Information

A practical, paper-first guide to help you confirm baggage allowances, fees, packing restrictions, and current airline requirements before you fly.

How to use this guide

Complete the airline worksheet before packing. Use the operating airline - not just the company that sold the ticket - to confirm baggage allowances, fees, size/weight limits, and special-item rules for each flight segment.

Flight & Airline Snapshot

Traveler(s) _____

Operating airline(s) _____

Flight number(s) _____

Departure date _____

Return date _____

Fare / cabin class _____

Baggage Allowance Worksheet

Bag Type	Qty. Allowed	Size Limit	Weight Limit	Fee
Checked bag	_____	_____	_____	$_____
Carry-on	_____	_____	_____	$_____
Personal item	_____	_____	_____	$_____
Special item	_____	_____	_____	$_____

Confirm Before You Pack

- ☐ Check the operating airline baggage page for each direction of travel.
- ☐ Confirm whether your fare, cabin, credit card, elite status, or other eligibility changes the baggage allowance or fee.
- ☐ Check overweight and oversize charges before deciding which bag to use.
- ☐ If multiple airlines are involved, confirm which carrier baggage rules apply to each segment.
- ☐ Save or print the baggage policy you relied on so you can reference it during travel.

Important reminder

Airline baggage fees and allowances can change. Confirm current rules with the operating airline before departure.

Checked Baggage

Use checked luggage for appropriate items while protecting anything essential, valuable, fragile, or difficult to replace.

Before Checking a Bag

- [ ] Weigh the bag at home and compare the result with the airline limit.
- [ ] Measure the bag if it is close to the airline size limit.
- [ ] Place current identification inside and outside the bag.
- [ ] Remove old airline, cruise, rail, or tour tags that could cause confusion.
- [ ] Photograph the closed bag and its contents before leaving home.
- [ ] Keep the baggage claim receipt until the bag is safely returned to you.

Keep These Out of Checked Baggage

- [ ] Passport, travel identification, keys, wallet, payment cards, and cash.
- [ ] Critical medications, essential medical supplies, and important travel documents.
- [ ] Jewelry, valuables, irreplaceable items, fragile electronics, and anything difficult to replace.
- [ ] Spare lithium batteries and power banks - these belong in carry-on baggage under current FAA rules.
- [ ] Anything you will need immediately if the checked bag is delayed.

Smart Checked-Bag Packing

- [ ] Use packing cubes or organizers if they make the bag easier to inspect and repack.
- [ ] Protect liquids and toiletries from leaks.
- [ ] Distribute weight intentionally so one bag does not become overweight.
- [ ] If traveling with another person, consider splitting a few essentials between checked bags.
- [ ] Leave some room for items acquired during the trip rather than departing at the absolute weight limit.

Battery reminder Spare lithium batteries and power banks must remain in carry-on baggage. If a carry-on is gate-checked, remove spare batteries and power banks first.

Carry-On & Personal Item

Pack the items you need during the travel day - and the things you cannot afford to lose access to.

Carry-On Essentials

- [ ] Passport and/or acceptable travel identification.
- [ ] Boarding pass, itinerary, confirmations, and destination entry documents.
- [ ] Prescription medications and essential health supplies.
- [ ] Phone, wallet, payment methods, keys, and valuables.
- [ ] Chargers, power bank, headphones, and other electronics you expect to use in transit.
- [ ] A light layer and a basic change of clothing in case checked baggage is delayed.

TSA Liquids Quick Check

Rule	Quick Reference
Container size	3.4 oz / 100 mL or less per container for standard carry-on liquids
Bag	One quart-size, clear, resealable bag
Per traveler	One liquids bag per passenger
Medical liquids	Different rules may apply to medically necessary liquids; declare them for screening

Carry-On Security Check

- [ ] Review TSA's current "What Can I Bring?" guidance for anything unusual.
- [ ] Pack standard liquids, aerosols, gels, creams, and pastes to comply with the current 3-1-1 rule unless an exception applies.
- [ ] Keep medically necessary liquids and medications accessible for screening.
- [ ] Keep spare batteries and power banks protected from damage and short circuit.
- [ ] If your carry-on may be checked at the gate, be ready to remove spare batteries, power banks, medications, identification, valuables, and critical documents.

Final authority — Even when an item is generally permitted, TSA may require additional screening or may not allow it through the checkpoint if it creates a security concern.

Restricted, Prohibited & Special Items

Do not guess with unusual items. Security rules, hazardous-material rules, airline policies, and destination rules can all apply.

Items That Deserve a Rule Check

- ☐ Batteries, power banks, smart luggage, battery-powered devices, and mobility equipment.
- ☐ Liquids, aerosols, gels, creams, powders, and medically necessary liquids.
- ☐ Tools, sporting goods, outdoor equipment, sharp objects, and specialty gear.
- ☐ Alcohol, food, agricultural products, and duty-free purchases.
- ☐ Firearms, ammunition, weapons, self-defense items, and anything that could be considered dangerous goods.
- ☐ Medical oxygen, mobility aids, CPAP equipment, refrigeration devices, and other medical equipment.

Special Item Planning Worksheet

Item	Carry-On?	Checked?	Airline Approval?	Notes
_____	____	____	____	_____
_____	____	____	____	_____
_____	____	____	____	_____
_____	____	____	____	_____
_____	____	____	____	_____

Battery Rules Worth Remembering

- ☐ Spare lithium batteries and power banks belong in carry-on baggage, not checked baggage.
- ☐ Protect spare battery terminals from short circuit.
- ☐ Do not travel with damaged or recalled batteries or battery-powered devices unless the hazardous battery has been removed or otherwise made safe.
- ☐ Larger lithium batteries may require airline approval or may be prohibited; check the watt-hour rating and airline policy.
- ☐ Confirm smart-luggage and tracking-device rules with the airline before travel.

When in doubt Use TSA "What Can I Bring?" for security-screening questions and FAA PackSafe for batteries, dangerous goods, and special items. Then confirm any stricter airline rule.

If a Bag Is Delayed, Lost or Damaged

Act before leaving the airport when possible, keep records, and make it easy to document what happened.

At the Airport

- ☐ Report the problem to the operating airline baggage service office before leaving the airport when possible.
- ☐ Get a written report, file number, or claim/reference number.
- ☐ Confirm how the airline will contact you and where the bag should be delivered.
- ☐ Photograph visible damage before further handling if the bag is damaged.
- ☐ Keep your baggage claim receipt, boarding pass, itinerary, and airline paperwork.

After You Leave the Airport

- ☐ Follow the airline's claim instructions and deadlines.
- ☐ Keep receipts for reasonable replacement purchases if your bag is delayed.
- ☐ Save emails, text messages, app notifications, and notes from conversations with the airline.
- ☐ If travel insurance was purchased, review the plan documents and insurer instructions before submitting a claim.
- ☐ Contact A to Z Travel Center if you need help identifying the correct supplier contact or understanding your itinerary.

Baggage Problem Record

Airline _____

Flight number _____

Date reported _____

Airport / location _____

Claim / file number _____

Airline contact _____

Bag description _____

A to Z Travel Center Questions about your itinerary or which supplier to contact? Call 440-888-6666. 6917 West 130th St., Parma Heights, Ohio 44130.

Official Airline & Security Resources

Keep this page with your travel papers so you know where to verify a rule when a question comes up.

Official Resources

Resource	Use It For
Operating airline website	Current baggage allowances, fees, size/weight limits, special items, claims
TSA - What Can I Bring?	Carry-on and checked-bag security screening questions
FAA - PackSafe	Batteries, hazardous materials, dangerous goods, smart luggage
U.S. DOT - Baggage	Passenger consumer information for baggage issues

Printed Web Addresses

Resource	Web Address
TSA - What Can I Bring?	tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/whatcanibring/all
FAA - PackSafe	faa.gov/hazmat/packsafe
U.S. DOT - Baggage	transportation.gov/airconsumer/baggage
U.S. DOT - Lost / Delayed / Damaged	transportation.gov/lost-delayed-or-damaged-baggage

Airline Contact Record

Operating airline _____

Baggage policy page _____

Baggage service phone _____

After-hours phone _____

Claims website _____

Reservation number _____

Other contact / notes _____

Before departure Recheck airline and government guidance shortly before travel. Rules can change, and the operating airline may apply stricter requirements than a general government guideline.