What can I send?

- Poisons, toxic liquids, solids and gases (including substances that are liable to cause death or injury if swallowed or inhaled or by skin contact, including arsenic, cyanide, fluorine, rat poison)
- Prescription medicines and drugs sent for scientific or medical purposes (toxic or flammable including asthma inhalers)
- Waste, dirt, filth or refuse (including household waste. Note soil samples sent for analysis are permitted provided they are packaged so that any leaks and spills are contained in the outer packaging)
- Weapons (including Section 5 firearms, CS gas and pepper sprays, flick knives and other knives that are banned under UK laws, including Section 5 firearms, CS gas and pepper sprays, flick knives and other knives that are banned under UK laws, tear-gas sprays, liquid sprays that cause injury, poisons, cyanide, fluorine, rat poison)
- Radioactive materials and samples (classified as dangerous goods such as luminous dials from aircraft)
- Solvent-based paints, wood varnishes and enamels
- Inner packaging can be blister packs of tablets or capsules of liquid (each pack not to exceed 50ml/50g per tablet/capsule), or small bottles of liquid up to 50ml. Net quantity in any parcel not to exceed 500ml/500g. Medicines must be securely closed and placed in a sealed polythene bag (for liquids) or a siltproof container (for solids). Must be tightly packed in strong outer packaging and cushioned to prevent breakage. Sender’s name and address must be visible on the parcel
- Prescription medicines and drugs sent for scientific or medical purposes (toxic or flammable including asthma inhalers)
- Packaging guidelines: Inner packaging can be blister packs of tablets or capsules of liquid (each pack not to exceed 50ml/50g per tablet/capsule), or small bottles of liquid up to 50ml. Net quantity in any parcel not to exceed 500ml/500g. Medicines must be securely closed and placed in a sealed polythene bag (for liquids) or a siltproof container (for solids). Must be tightly packed in strong outer packaging and cushioned to prevent breakage. Sender’s name and address must be visible on the parcel
- Radius of 5 litres/5kg.
- Note: Some services and countries have additional requirements. Please check before sending
- Solvent-based paints, wood varnishes and enamels
- Waste, dirt, filth or refuse (including household waste. Note soil samples sent for analysis are permitted provided they are packaged so that any leaks and spills are contained in the outer packaging)
- Weapons (including Section 5 firearms, CS gas and pepper sprays, flick knives and other knives that are banned under UK laws, tear-gas sprays, liquid sprays that cause injury, poisons, cyanide, fluorine, rat poison)

Are you posting safely?

To comply with national and international regulations governing the carriage of mail, and ensure that mail in transport does not present a danger to the general public, we restrict or prohibit certain items from our network.

We want to ensure the mail is safe for everyone. Many everyday items, such as aerosols, nail varnish and perfumes are considered dangerous goods under transport legislation.

Failure to comply with these controls could result in prosecution.

You are responsible for checking whether or not an item is prohibited or restricted.

Consumer warning markings

Products bearing the following consumer warning symbols are dangerous goods and are prohibited unless specifically permitted takeover.

Note 1: A product bearing only the corrosive marking (depicted bottom right above) is NOT classified as dangerous goods if the signal word and hazard statement: Danger – causes serious eye damage' applies.

Note 2: Environmentally hazardous substances are prohibited for items which exceed 5 litres/lit.

To help you...

Royal Mail can arrange for alternative formats of this leaflet to be sent to you in:
- Large print
- Braille
- Audio CD
- Audio Cassette

To obtain a free copy call Customer Services on 03457 740 740

Textphone service for customers who are deaf or hearing impaired: 03456 000 606

Alternatively, please visit www.royalmail.com/prohibitedgoods or www.parcelforce.com/retailprohibitions

Please note consequential loss cover is not available when posting any Restricted materials.
Aerosols for toilet or medicinal purposes
- Including deodorants, body sprays, hair sprays, and medicinal ointments for prevention or cure (such as flax sprays)

Packaging guidelines:
- Must be free from any leak, shattered, dented, or punctured metal, and securely packaged. Mark each parcel “SAFE” with a visible seal.

Alcoholic beverages containing more than 24% alcohol by volume
- Must be new and sent unopened in their original container.

Packaging guidelines:
- Each parcel must be tightly packed in strong outer packaging and must be secured to prevent accidental activation. Must be presented at the counter. Sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the parcel.

Aerosols for other purposes
- Including spray paints, air fresheners, etc.

Alcoholic beverages containing more than 24% but not more than 70% alcohol by volume
- Must be marked as “NOT RESTRICTED” and “SPA67 / SP238”.

Packaging guidelines:
- Must be new and securely packed with absorbent material to prevent breakage. Marks “SAFE” and secure with tape.

Aerosol dispensers
- Including inkjet cartridges, printer ink cartridges, and toner cartridges

Packaging guidelines:
- Each must be tightly packed in strong outer packaging and must be secured to prevent accidental activation. Must be presented at the counter. Sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the parcel.

Batteries
- Including used batteries and other aerials and aircraft projectors

Packaging guidelines:
- Each Li-ion or Li-polymer battery must not exceed the watt-hour rating specified by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) for each parcel.

Batteries, specifically new alkaline metal, nickel metal hydride (NiMH), nickel cadmium (NiCd), lithium and sodium-sulfur (NaS) batteries
- Must be packed in a leak-proof inner liner, such as a sealed polythene bag and in a strong outer packaging that complies with Packaging Instruction 650.

Block flammable gases
- Including gases that are part of a system for use with a specific device, such as a tire inflator.

Packaging guidelines:
- Each block must be placed in a leak-proof inner liner, such as a sealed polythene bag and in a strong outer packaging that complies with Packaging Instruction 650.

Clinical and medical waste
- Including syringes, needles, razor blades, and surgical instruments

Packaging guidelines:
- Each must be tightly packed in strong outer packaging and must be secured to prevent accidental activation. Must be presented at the counter. Sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the parcel.

Combustible items
- Including panel heaters, fire extinguishers, and gas appliances

Packaging guidelines:
- Each must be tightly packed in strong outer packaging and must be secured to prevent accidental activation. Must be presented at the counter. Sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the parcel.

Electrical and electronic equipment
- Including any electrical and electronic equipment

Packaging guidelines:
- Each must be tightly packed in strong outer packaging and must be secured to prevent accidental activation. Must be presented at the counter. Sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the parcel.

Explosives
- Including firecrackers, flares, blasting caps, port-powder

Packaging guidelines:
- Each must be tightly packed in strong outer packaging and must be secured to prevent accidental activation. Must be presented at the counter. Sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the parcel.

Flammable liquids
- Including petrol, diesel, benzine, ethyl ether, acetone, and naphtha

Packaging guidelines:
- Each must be tightly packed in strong outer packaging and must be secured to prevent accidental activation. Must be presented at the counter. Sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the parcel.

Flammable solids
- Including magnesium, phosphorous, potassium, sodium, and other flammable solids

Packaging guidelines:
- Each must be tightly packed in strong outer packaging and must be secured to prevent accidental activation. Must be presented at the counter. Sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the parcel.

Gases
- Including flammable, non-flammable, toxic and compressed gases

Packaging guidelines:
- Each must be tightly packed in strong outer packaging and must be secured to prevent accidental activation. Must be presented at the counter. Sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the parcel.

Human or animal ashes
- Must be boxed and packaged to protect the cargo from shock and impact

Packaging guidelines:
- Each must be tightly packed in strong outer packaging and must be secured to prevent accidental activation. Must be presented at the counter. Sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the parcel.

Infectious substances and pathogens
- Including the creatures, our staff and our customers from harm

Packaging guidelines:
- Each must be tightly packed in strong outer packaging and must be secured to prevent accidental activation. Must be presented at the counter. Sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the parcel.

Lighters and refilling equipment
- Including butane, petrol and cigarette lighters

Packaging guidelines:
- Each must be tightly packed in strong outer packaging and must be secured to prevent accidental activation. Must be presented at the counter. Sender's name and return address must be clearly visible on the parcel.