

# Shipping & Postage

## Things to remember when shipping things home

- You may need bubble wrap, newspaper, strong tape, scissors, plastic bags, strong cardboard boxes and a permanent marker. You can buy cardboard boxes at the Post Office.
- You CANNOT send: firearms, explosives, fireworks, weapons, fresh food, drugs, plants, obscene materials, ammunition, goods for resale
- Label your boxes and keep your own lists of what was in each (numbered) box.
- Have an estimate of the boxes' value: insure anything valuable
- Have prescriptions for any medicines
- Keep serial numbers of any goods that have them

## Points to ponder

- The Post Office charges ¥10,250 to ship 20kg DOOR TO DOOR via surface mail (funa-bin 船便)
- Shipping companies charge by VOLUME, not by weight and ship from PORT TO PORT.
- The minimum volume is one cubic meter (about seven large suitcases) so this option is worth considering if you have more than 100kg to send.
- Before you leave, you could TAKUBIN your items to the airport. You can send goods from most convenience stores or even arrange that they come and pick them up from your house. Allow at least THREE days for your items to arrive.

## Useful websites

- Post Office [www.post.japanpost.jp/english/service/index.html](http://www.post.japanpost.jp/english/service/index.html)  
[www.post.japanpost.jp/fee/simulator/kokusai/koku\\_kodu.html](http://www.post.japanpost.jp/fee/simulator/kokusai/koku_kodu.html)
- Gaijin Pot [www.gaijinpot.com/english/freight.php](http://www.gaijinpot.com/english/freight.php)  
- this site offers useful links to most shipping companies
- Excel International [www.ijinet.or.jp/eico/ENGnew/excelinternationalenglish.html](http://www.ijinet.or.jp/eico/ENGnew/excelinternationalenglish.html)
- Japan Express [www.japanexpress.co.jp/hikkoshi/eng.htm](http://www.japanexpress.co.jp/hikkoshi/eng.htm)
- Nippon Express [www2.nittsu.co.jp/cont.html](http://www2.nittsu.co.jp/cont.html)
- ValueMove [www.occidental.co.jp/valuemove](http://www.occidental.co.jp/valuemove)
- Japan Luggage Express [www.jluggage.com](http://www.jluggage.com)
- Allied Pickfords [www.alliedpickfords.co.jp/jp/](http://www.alliedpickfords.co.jp/jp/)  
- all items including cars etc
- Premier Worldwide Movers [www.asiantigers-premierwmm.com](http://www.asiantigers-premierwmm.com)
- International Bike [www.internationalbike.com/index.cfm/Loader](http://www.internationalbike.com/index.cfm/Loader)  
- about flying your bike home