



MOVING TO NEW ZEALAND

You're planning your move to New Zealand and your not sure what the quarantine and customs laws are? Here is a cheat sheet of what you need to be aware of before shipping your household items.

MAF Biosecurity New Zealand (MAFBNZ) along with the New Zealand Customs Service and the Department of Immigration, have specific requirements for people moving personal effects/household possessions to New Zealand. If you require any further information regarding your shipment, please refer to the New Zealand Customs and Department of Immigration websites.

Customs Restrictions

All prohibited and restricted items must be declared. These include:

- objectionable material contained on items like videotapes, films, records, CD-ROMs and in publications
- weapons like flick knives, butterfly knives, swordsticks, knuckle-clusters
- any weapon which is disguised as something else
- equipment for using cannabis or methamphetamine
- anything which you're planning to use in a crime.
- ivory in any form, including jewellery, and carvings
- tortoise or sea turtle shell jewellery, and ornaments
- meat or food derived from whales, dolphins, rare crane, and pheasants, or sea turtles
- medicines containing musk, or rhinoceros or tiger derivatives such as ground horn or bone
- carvings or other things made from whalebone or bone from other marine mammals
- cat skins
- trophies of sea turtles, all big cats, rare reptiles, cranes, pheasants, bears, antelope, and deer
- live species, including pet eagles, hawks, owls and parrots, many cacti, orchids, cycads, and cyclamens
- carnivorous plants.

For more information and a comprehensive list, visit:
www.customs.govt.nz/personal/prohibited-and-restricted-items

Biosecurity

Strict biosecurity laws mean there are some items you cannot bring to New Zealand, and some other items will require inspection on arrival. MAFBNZ is responsible for protecting the natural resources, plants, animals and people of New Zealand from the introduction of pests and diseases. With more people than ever wanting to visit or move to New Zealand the risk of unwanted pest and disease introduction increases. Pests and diseases can cross our border in personal and household effects, so to prevent this there are strict rules about what people are allowed to send or bring to New Zealand. MAFBNZ assess all shipments of goods coming into the country by checking documentation and, when necessary, examining the goods. If risk items are found these may be treated, reshipped, or destroyed (at the owner's cost). For a full listing of prohibited items visit:

mpi.govt.nz/bring-send-to-nz/bringing-and-posting-items-to-nz/check-if-you-can-bring-or-send-an-item-to-nz



Duty free entry

Household items and related effects including motor vehicles can be imported free of duty and GST provided they are imported by a person who has arrived in New Zealand who:

- holds New Zealand residence, or a work visa (for a minimum of 12 months), or a three-year visitors visa, at the time of importation; and
- has resided outside New Zealand for more than 21 months; and
- has owned and personally used the goods prior to importation.

Note:

The goods must not be for any other person, or for gift, sale, or exchange, or for commercial use. Motor vehicles, ships, and aircraft must have been owned and used for 12 months prior to shipping or the owner's departure for New Zealand – whichever is the earlier.

What you'll need to do

Prior to sending your goods, the following needs to be completed and provided to us:

1. NZCS-218 declaration form:
customs.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/forms/nzcs-218-bringing-personal-household-items-into-new-zealand.pdf
2. NZCS-224 customs application form:
customs.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/nzcs-forms/nzcs-224-a-customs-number-application-for-an-individual-person.pdf
3. Personal effects supplementary declaration form:
www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/4690-Personal-effects-supplementary-declaration



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