



POSTAL NEWS

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U.S. Postal Service Launches New Priority Mail Box *Small Flat-Rate Box Gives Customers Another Shipping Option*

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) is launching a new, smaller Priority Mail Flat Rate Box, giving customers another choice in packaging to ship anywhere in the United States for one price, regardless of weight or destination.

The Priority Mail Small Flat Rate Box measures 8-5/8 x 5-3/8 x 1-5/8 inches — about the same size and shape as three stacked DVD cases. The smaller sized box is perfect for jewelry, electronics, event tickets, or other small items that need expedited shipping.

“Customers will find this new sized box a great addition to our line of flat-rate packaging,” said Gary Reblin, vice president of Expedited Shipping. “If an item is too thick for a flat-rate envelope but too small to fill a larger flat-rate box, this is an ideal choice. Customers get quick and easy shipping without having to use a box larger than needed. It’s the perfect combination of size, speed and price.”

Like all USPS flat-rate boxes and envelopes, the new box is available free of charge and also can be used for international shipping.

It will have a retail price of \$4.95 effective Jan. 18 — one price, regardless of weight, up to 70 lbs. for U.S. addresses. The international price, for up to 4 lbs., will be just \$10.95 to Canada or Mexico and \$12.95 to all other countries, with savings of 5 percent for customers who ship online. Online prices also are lower for shipping to U.S. addresses. The online price will be \$4.80, and for large volume mailers who qualify for USPS Commercial Plus pricing, the price will be \$4.75.

Customers can order the new boxes online at usps.com/supplies in packs of 10 and 25, up to a maximum of 200, starting Jan. 12 to prepare for shipping Jan. 18. Post Offices will begin stocking the boxes Jan. 18.

With the launch of the Priority Mail Small Flat Rate Box, customers will have four different flat-rate boxes from which to choose: the two original boxes (similar to a clothing box and a shoe box), the Large Flat Rate Box introduced in 2008, and the new smaller box.

Priority Mail Flat Rate Boxes provide secure delivery, including to P.O. Boxes. Priority Mail service includes Saturday delivery and residential delivery at no extra cost, with no fuel surcharges. More information about Priority Mail is available at usps.com/priority. Complete information on all USPS shipping services can be found at usps.com/shipping.

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An independent federal agency, the U.S. Postal Service is the only delivery service that reaches every address in the nation, 146 million homes and businesses, six days a week. It has 37,000 retail locations and relies on the sale of postage, products and services, not tax dollars, to pay for operating expenses. The Postal Service has annual revenue of \$75 billion and delivers nearly half the world's mail.