

How to send Lithium Batteries through Australia Post

Lithium batteries (or equipment containing lithium batteries) are a dangerous good and present a fire and safety risk if carried incorrectly. As a result there are certain limitations around how they can be sent by Australia Post.

Lithium batteries are of two general types: Lithium Ion (rechargeable) and Lithium Metal (non-rechargeable).

Common Types of Lithium Batteries



Cell/Battery Capacity Limits

Lithium Ion or Lithium Polymer cells/batteries can be mailed if they meet the following		Lithium Metal or Lithium Alloy cells/batteries can be mailed if they meet the following
Cells: Maximum Watt hour rating of 20Wh	The Watt hour rating (Wh) will usually be marked on the outside of the battery cases	Cells: Maximum lithium content of one gram
Batteries: Maximum Watt hour rating of 100Wh		Batteries: Maximum aggregate lithium quantity of two grams
Watt hour (Wh) = Amp hour (Ah) x Voltage (V)		

What Lithium Batteries can be sent and how can they travel?

Battery Type	Batteries	Air and Surface*	Domestic Road	Special Instructions
Lithium Ion (Rechargeable) - Up to 100Wh • Cameras • Mobile phones • iPads and similar tablets • Laptops • Electric shaver or trimmer • Small hand held power tools	Installed in equipment	✓	✓	• International or domestic mail • All air and international sea mail limited to 2 batteries or 4 cells • Check international guide for individual country restrictions
	Packed alongside equipment or by itself	✗	✓	• Must have Australia Post Road Transport Only label • Domestic mail only
Lithium Ion - More than 100Wh • Portable medical equipment • Electric bikes or scooters	Installed in equipment	✗	✗	
	Packed alongside equipment or by itself	✗	✗	
Lithium Metal (Non-recharge-able) - Up to two grams • Watches • Computer motherboards	Installed in equipment	✓	✓	• International or domestic mail • All air and international sea mail limited to 2 batteries or 4 cells • Check international guide for individual country restrictions
	Packed alongside equipment or by itself	✗	✓	• Must have Australia Post Road Transport Only label • Domestic mail only
Lithium Metal (Non-recharge-able) - More than two grams • 'C' size battery and above	Installed in equipment	✗	✗	
	Packed alongside equipment or by itself	✗	✗	

*Note: Air & Surface includes international and domestic services

How to pack?

- Where possible use the original retail packaging
- Equipment must be packed so that it can't accidentally turn on
- Batteries must be protected against short circuiting
- Batteries not installed in equipment must be securely packed in inner packaging that completely encloses the battery e.g. Bubble wrap
- External packaging must provide a strong level of protection against breakage or impact as it goes through the mail network (eg Cardboard box and greater than 20mm thick)

