

# UPS® Parcel Weight Limits and Size Maximums ... ... and When to Consider LTL Freight



Theoretically, package shipping sounds simple. A shipper puts a product in a box and sends it on its way. UPS® does make **parcel shipping** easy. But there are some UPS weight limits, along with size restrictions, that shippers need to be aware of. Otherwise, they will face hefty fees. In many cases, shippers can avoid those costs by sending their package by **less-than-truckload (LTL) freight**.

## UPS weight and size limits

Max weight → 150 pounds

Max length → 108 inches

Girth + length combined → 165 inches

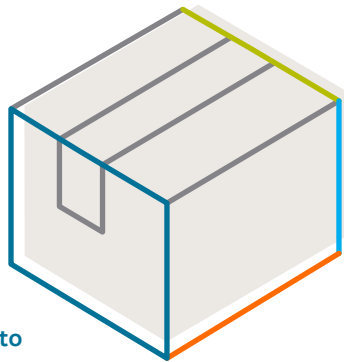
## Proper package measurements

Width → Second longest side

Height → Shortest side

Length → Longest side

Girth → Total distance around a package at its widest point, perpendicular to the length [(2 x width) + (2 x height)]



## When and why to choose LTL shipping:

- » To avoid the \$1,150 price tag when a package is over the limit
- » Adds long-term cost savings to consistently ship larger packages near or above limits
- » To get lower rates on oversized packages (prices vary by carrier) along with discounts for volume, consolidation and other variables

## Oversize fees and considerations

- » Any package over the limits of weight, girth and/or length will receive an Over Maximum Limits fee by UPS of \$1,150<sup>1</sup> in addition to service fees and rates.
- » When a package is oversized, there is no guarantee that UPS will ship the package or get it to the destination on time.
- » A package may weigh 149 pounds on a shipper's scale, but 151 on a UPS scale. The UPS weight will determine if fees apply.
- » Packages with bulges or loose tape can push packages over measurement limits.

## Density vs. weight

Did you know that carriers will sometimes bill for the density of packages opposed to weight and size? It's called dimensional (DIM) weight. **Learn more about it in our guide where we break down the best way to determine a package's DIM weight.**

## A 3PL partner like Worldwide Express can:

- » Negotiate LTL carrier rates
- » Advise shippers on best practices
- » Create a robust shipping strategy
- » Select carriers that fit your shipping needs
- » Determine when to use LTL to save money

**Extra perk:** A 3PL can provide a transportation management system that will alert shippers when packages are near the weight or size limits.

Let us help you determine when it's cost-effective to ship parcel or LTL!

[wwex.com](https://www.wwex.com)

<sup>1</sup> Fee amount as of April 25, 2023. Cost may fluctuate.  
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