

Ship smarter: know your dimensional weight



How choosing the right-sized box can save you money.

Weight is a big factor in determining shipping costs, but it's not just what the scales say. Another important consideration is a package's size, or dimensional (DIM) weight. DIM weight measures volume by calculating a package's length, width and height.

Understanding how carriers measure DIM weight and how to properly package items for shipment can save you money.

Why is DIM weight important?

DIM weight is important to carriers because large, lightweight packages can cost more to ship, due to the disproportionate amount of space they take up in transit.

PILLOWS

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SHOES

\$



Example: Pillows weigh less than a box of shoes, but take up more space on the delivery truck. It costs more to ship them because of their DIM weight.

How to measure DIM weight

Calculate DIM weight in 3 easy steps

DIM weight applies to parcels larger than a cubic foot (1728 cu in)

1 Determine cubic inches

$L \times H \times W = \text{Cubic inches}$
 $18'' \times 14'' \times 12'' = 3024 \text{ cu in}$



2 Divide cubic inches by the DIM divisor

The DIM divisor is determined by each carrier.

DIM Divisor	Domestic	International
UPS	166	139
FedEx	166	139
USPS	166	—

$3024 \div 166 = 18.21$ (Round up your answer)

DIM weight is 19 lbs

3 Determine the shipping rate

Your billable shipping rate is based on whichever is higher, DIM weight or actual weight.

Actual weight = 11 lbs

DIM weight = 19 lbs

The billable rate is 19 lbs

Save money with the right-sized Box

Choosing a package with the right dimensions can make a big difference in your billable weight. See how boxes of different sizes impact the shipping costs* of a 1 lb pair of headphones.

Shipping with USPS

16" x 12" x 8" = 1536 cu in		Actual weight: 1 lb, shipping to Zone 8	
	USPS Priority Mail (DIM weight not applicable – less than 1 cubic ft)	1536 ÷ 166 = 10 lbs	
	Cost for shipping	\$8.52	
12" x 12" x 12" = 1728 cu in			
	USPS Priority Mail (DIM weight not applicable – equal to 1 cubic ft)	1728 ÷ 166 = 11 lbs	
	Cost for shipping	\$8.52	
18" x 14" x 12" = 3024 cu in			
	USPS Priority Mail DIM weight	3024 ÷ 166 = 19 lbs	
	Cost for shipping	\$58.25	

To learn more tips and tools on shipping visit us at:
[eBay.com/Shipping](https://www.eBay.com/Shipping)

* Rates based on carrier pricing, January 2021