



Importing Personal Property Into Mexico

IMPORTING HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

DUTY-FREE ENTRY IS PERMITTED IF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS ARE MET:

- The goods and personal effects are used and have been in the shipper's possession for at least 6 months prior to the date of customs clearance.
- Returning national must have lived outside of Mexico for at least 2 years.

Notes:

- Household and electrical appliances, furniture, clothing, books, bookcases, works of art and tools necessary for one's trade/profession are considered household goods/ personal effects.
- New items include items purchased less than 6 months prior to customs clearance and any item in unopened, original packaging. New items must be packed together in an accessible location for easier identification.
- New items must be declared. If customs authorities find during inspection, undeclared new items or items not on the list of goods, these items will be confiscated and the shipper may have to pay fines/ penalties and possibly face legal liability. Also, the entire shipment may be held or confiscated.
- If there are no new items in the shipment, insert the following statement: "No hay ningunos articulos nuevos en los efectos."
- New items must be declared separately, based on Rule 3.6.3 of the Mexican Customs Code. Therefore, in effect, whenever there are new items there are essentially two imports.
- Motor vehicles are not categorized as household goods/ personal effects and therefore must be shipped separately.
- Household goods must be in accordance with the number of members in the shipper's household.

Notes (Continued):

- Duplication of certain items, especially major electronic items must be avoided.
- If the shipper has a FM-3 Visa, the shipper's company guarantees that everything the shipper imports will be exported upon the shipper's return to his/her country of origin. New items in which duties have been paid at the time of importation may be sold or given away at any time after importation.
- Shippers with a FM-3 Visa are allowed to have their household effects in Mexico on a temporary basis. These same effects must be exported upon the departure of the shipper from Mexico, excluding new items in which duties were paid at the time of importation.
- If there is an air and surface shipment, it is suggested that the air shipment include only personal effects and no electrical items are included. Air shipments will be cleared with a valid passport and the original signed list of goods, in Spanish, as unaccompanied personal effects. If items other than clothes, shoes, and books are included in the air shipment, these items may incur duties.
- There is a limit on what a shipper can bring in as new and pay duties on. Any items exceeding the limit simply cannot be brought in. These limits are (according to Customs Rule 3.6.3):

▪ Toys	10
▪ Electronic Toys	2
▪ Furniture	10 pieces or 3 sets
▪ Clothes & Access.	10
▪ Shoes	3 pairs
▪ Sporting Goods	1
▪ Bicycle	1
▪ Electro-domestic	6 items
▪ Computer parts	5
▪ Professnl. Equip.	1 set
▪ Tools	2 sets
▪ Imitation Jewelry	20
▪ CDs, tapes, etc.	20
▪ Jewelry	2

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REQUIRED DOCUMENTS FOR HOUSEHOLD GOODS:

For Returning Nationals

- ✓ Signed original and 3 copies of the shipper's residence certificate, issued by the Mexican Consulate at origin.
- ✓ Signed original and 3 original copies of the inventory in Spanish, certified by the Mexican Consulate at origin. The list must state the brand, model number, serial number and country of manufacture of all electric and electronic items.
- ✓ Copy of the shipper's valid passport.
- ✓ Signed, original **Declaratory Letter** in Spanish addressed to Mexican customs stating the items in the shipment are used, their value in U.S. dollars, and that no prohibited items are included in the shipment.
- ✓ Mexican tax number of the shipper of the goods.
- ✓ New items require the following:
 - ✓ Legible invoices
 - ✓ Advance on duties to be paid

For Long-term Foreign Residents - FM-2 Visa:

- ✓ Signed original and 3 original copies of the list of goods in the shipment, in Spanish, certified by the Mexican Consulate at origin. Values and elaborate description of the items are not required on this list. The brand, model and serial numbers, and country manufacture must be stated for all electric and electronic items.
- ✓ Copy of the shipper's FM-2 Visa.
- ✓ Signed, original **Declaratory Letter** in Spanish addressed to Mexican customs stating the items in the shipment are used, their value in U.S. dollars, and that no prohibited items are included in the shipment.
- ✓ New items require:
 - ✓ Signed original letter addressed to Mexican customs in Spanish declaring the use and value (in U.S. dollars) of the good in the shipment. See "Example 1."
 - ✓ Legible invoices
 - ✓ An advance on the duties to be paid

For Short-term Foreign Residents (FM-3 Visa):

- ✓ Inventory in Spanish, certified by the Mexican Consulate at origin.
- ✓ Signed original list of goods in the shipment in Spanish with the individual values in U.S. dollars. The list must state the brand, model and serial numbers and country of manufacture of all electric and electronic items.
- ✓ Copy of the shipper's FM-3 Visa.
- ✓ Copy of the power of attorney of the person signing the letter of guarantee.
- ✓ The Mexican tax number (R.F.C. "cedula") of the corporate employer.
- ✓ Signed, original **Declaratory Letter** in Spanish addressed to Mexican customs stating the items in the shipment are used, their value in U.S. dollars, and that no prohibited items are included in the shipment.
- ✓ Signed original letter of guarantee, on corporate stationary, from the shipper's employer in Mexico (see "Example 3").
- ✓ New items require:
 - ✓ Signed original letter addressed to Mexican customs, in Spanish declaring the use and value of the shipped goods (see "Example 2).
 - ✓ Legible invoices
 - ✓ An advance on the duties to be paid

PROHIBITED ITEMS:

- Firearms, weapons, ammunition and explosives.
- Illicit drugs
- Pornographic material
- Boats and motorized vehicles other than automobiles
- Foodstuffs
- All alcoholic beverages

Note: Goods may be inspected by anti-narcotics agents, agricultural authorities (depending on origin), and may also be inspected separately by customs officials at least once. Any items not declared, or those that are new, are subject to confiscation as contraband, possibly delaying the shipment for an extended period of time.

DUTIABLE/ RESTRICTED ITEMS:

- All medicines must be accompanied by a doctor's prescription.
- Inheritances require an import permit.
- All new items less than 6 months old are dutiable.
- Artwork and Antiques (must be considered household goods)

IMPORTATION OF PETS:

- Pets may be imported duty-free.
- Pets other than cats or dogs, such as birds, turtles or fish require a quarantine period at the owner's expense.
- Fax documents in advance to avoid any delays in pet release

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

- ✓ US Veterinarian Certificate Form 77-043
- ✓ Rabies Inoculation permit valid at least 6 months prior to importation.
- ✓ Health Certificate

IMPORTATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES:

- Diplomats may temporarily import vehicles duty-free with the appropriate documents from the Mexican diplomatic mission at origin.
- Returning nationals and persons with a FM-2 Visa cannot import automobiles duty-free. Import permits, which are rarely granted, are required.
- Shippers with a FM-3 Visa can temporarily import vehicles. The automobile cannot be sold in Mexico and they must be exported when the shipper's visa expires. The shipper must personally cross the vehicle into Mexico and only the shipper or a member of his or her immediate family may drive the vehicle in Mexico.
- Only vehicles up to 3 tons are permitted importation unless it is a mobile home, in which case any type or tonnage is permitted.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

- ✓ Original Visa (for shippers who are not returning Mexican citizens)
- ✓ Passport
- ✓ License
- ✓ Title
- ✓ Driver's License
- ✓ Letter of credit from financing company if the vehicle has a lien on it.
- ✓ International Credit Card, such as Visa,

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

- Atlas Mexicana, 2002
- 4moversww.com, April 2000.
- Crossing the Border (Coming and Going)," <http://www.rockypointonline.com/customs.htm>, March 2000

The information presented herein is based on customs data available at the time of printing and is frequently subject to change without notice. It is the responsibility of the owner or importer of the household goods to comply with the current customs restrictions, regulations, and duties of the country to which the goods are imported. We strongly advise customers to contact the consulate or embassy of the destination country for the most current information on customs regulations, restrictions and duties for importing household goods, personal effects and vehicles.

(Example 1)

(date in Spanish)

C. Administrador de la Aduana
de (point of customs clearance)
Presente.

Muy señor nuestro:

Por medio de la presente y bajo protesta de decir verdad y de acuerdo con el Artículo 106, Fracción IV, inciso b de la Ley Aduanera en vigor y Artículo 140, Fracción III del Reglamento a la Ley Aduanera, manifiesto a Usted que me obligo a retornar mi menaje de casa, al término de mi calidad migratoria en este país, así como dar aviso a la autoridad aduanera, en caso de tener cambio de domicilio en territorio nacional.

Asimismo manifiesto a Usted no traer dentro de mi menaje de casa armas de fuego, municiones, drogas, ni artículos prohibidos por la ley y que mi menaje de casa llegado a esa Aduana a su digno cargo es totalmente usado y ningún artículo es nuevo [salvo lo que se detalla a continuación:

Description of new items in Spanish, one per line \$ (value in U.S. dollars)]

El valor total estimado de mi menaje de casa es de \$ (total value of the shipment) U.S. Dólares.

De antemano agradezco la atención que a la presente brinde, a efecto de conceder la importación de los artículos mencionados.

Atentamente,

(name and signature)

(origin address)

(destination address)
(destination telephone)

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(Example 2)

(date in Spanish)

C. Administrador de la Aduana
de (point of customs clearance)
Presente.

Muy señor nuestro:

Por medio de la presente y bajo protesta de decir verdad y de acuerdo con los Artículos 61, Fracción VII de la Ley Aduanera en vigor, 90 y 91 su Reglamento, manifiesto a Usted no traer dentro de mi menaje de casa, armas de fuego, municiones, drogas, ni artículos prohibidos por la ley y que mi menaje de casa, llegado a esa Aduana a su digno cargo, es totalment usado y ningún artículo es nuevo [salvo lo que se detalla a continuación:

Description of new items in Spanish, one item per line \$ (value in U.S. dollars)]

Así mismo declaro que el valor total estimado de mi menaje de casa es de \$ (total value of the shipment) U.S. Dólares.

De antemano agradezco las atenciones que se sirva dispensarme, a efecto de conceder la importación de los artículos mencionados.

Atentamente,

(name and signature)

(origin address)

(destination address)
(destination telephone)

(Example 3)

(letterhead of Mexican corporation)

(date in Spanish)

C. Administrador de la Aduana
del (point of customs clearance)
Presente.

De conformidad con lo dispuesto en el Artículo 141, Fracción IV del Código Fiscal de la Federación, por medio de la presente se está otorgando obligación solidaria asumida por tercero, con la finalidad de garantizar el interés fiscal en la importación temporal del menaje de casa del Sr. (name of owner of the goods) por esa Aduana a su digno cargo al amparo del Artículo 106, Fracción IV Inciso b de la Ley Aduanera.

Por medio de la presente, nos obligamos solidariamente con los créditos que resulten a cargo del importador, en caso de que este no cumpla con las obligaciones de la importación temporal.

Atentamente,

(name and signature of the legal representative of the Mexican corporation)
(corporate R.F.C. number)

(Example 4)
(for all air shipments)

(date in Spanish)

C. Administrador de la Aduana del
Aeropuerto Internacional de la Ciudad de México
Presente.

Estimados señores:

Sirva la presente para otorgar poder amplio y cumplido al Sr. Evaristo Martinez y/o al Sr. Arturo Mendoza para que en mi nombre y representación realice lost trámites a fin de disaduanar mi embarque amparado con la guía (airway bill number).

Si es menester ampliar la presente, me pongo a sus órdena incondicionalmente.

Atentamente,

(signature)

Acepto el poder con todos los derechos y obligaciones que se causen.