**Checked media bags**

Media representatives are charged a flat rate when flying with media equipment. Travel with added ease of mind.

How to qualify

**Be a media company representative**

**Show media credentials**

**Need to clearly label media equipment cases with company information**

Cost

To pay for a media bag, you’ll need to go to the airport ticket counter. Bag fees are charged each way of a trip.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Region** | **Cost** |
| **Within North America (including the U.S., Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central America)\*** | $50 |
| **Outside of North America\*** | $70 |

\* Each bag up to 99.9 lbs., including oversized baggage.

* **Can my spouse or anyone traveling with me receive the media rate?**

No. This rate is only available to media personnel.

* **What if I can't provide the approved verification?**

Customers will be charged standard checked baggage service charges if they're unable to provide verification.

* **Does the media charge change?**

Media charges on United are subject to seasonal or permanent bag [embargoes](https://www.united.com/ual/en/us/fly/travel/baggage/embargo.html). They are also subject to the [connecting airline's bag policies](https://www.united.com/ual/en/us/fly/mileageplus/earn-miles/airline-partners.html).

**Seats for bags**

If you don’t want to check your special items, you can buy an extra seat and take them on the plane with you.

Most people use seats for bags to travel with things like large or valuable musical instruments\*, wedding dress, cameras, and garment bags. A United agent must approve all items before boarding.

**Rules for items traveling in seats**

Items with an assigned seat:

* Should weigh less than 165 pounds (75 kg).
* Must stay packaged or covered to avoid injuring other passengers.
* Must stay in a seat next to the owner and secured with a seatbelt for the entire flight.
* Cannot hold any [dangerous goods](https://www.united.com/en/us/fly/baggage/dangerous-items.html).
* Cannot block any exits, signage, or the aisle of the cabin.

To reserve a seat for your bag or special item, call 1-800-864-8331. Seat prices can change and may be higher than the cost of your original ticket.

\*If you are traveling with a guitar, follow the regular rules for [carry-on bags](https://www.united.com/en/us/fly/baggage/carry-on.html).

Fragile and valuable items

If you’re traveling with expensive items, items that can break, or food that can go bad, we recommend you bring them in your carry-on bag or as your personal item whenever possible. These items do count toward your carry-on or checked bag allowance and may be subject to fees. Use the tool below to learn more about specific fragile items, or read about our fragile items policy. [Read more about our fragile items policy.](https://www.united.com/en/us/fly/baggage/fragile-and-valuable-items.html#fragile-items-policy)

**Other items subject to our fragile items policy**

Valuable or fragile items include anything checked in paper or plastic bags, or cardboard boxes, as well as items made of paper and those considered irreplaceable. All of these items are subject to our [fragile items policy](https://www.united.com/en/us/fly/baggage/fragile-and-valuable-items.html#fragile-items-policy). This includes the following:

* + Antiques, artifacts and heirlooms
  + Art
  + Business equipment and samples
  + Cameras and other photography equipment
  + China, glass, ceramics and pottery
  + Collectibles
  + Computer hardware and software
  + Electronics
  + Flowers and plants
  + Glasses, contacts and other vision devices
  + Irreplaceable items
  + Jewelry
  + Keys
  + Liquids, including perfume
  + Money, gift cards and gift certificates
  + Perishable items
  + Precious metals and stones
  + Real fur
  + Religious items
  + Tools
  + Silverware, knives and swords
  + Sleeping bags and backpacks
  + Watches

**Traveler pro tips**

Fragile items can be easily damaged, even if they're packed in a suitcase. We have a few tips to help keep your items safe:

* + Place items in the middle of the bag.
  + Wrap items securely in bubble wrap or even with some of your clothes.
  + If the item is small enough, you can place inside a shoe to help keep it secure.
* **Fragile items policy**

If you check valuable or fragile items for travel within the U.S., we’re not liable for any loss, damage or delay of your items. For most international travel our liability for loss, damage or delay is limited.

All of the following are considered valuable or fragile items:

* Items checked in paper or plastic bags that don’t close securely or provide protection.
* Items checked in cardboard boxes, including those we provide. This doesn’t include items that would be safe for travel without the carboard box.
* Items made of paper, like blueprints, maps, manuscripts, photos and books.
* Any other valuable or irreplaceable item packed in checked or carry-on bags with or without our knowledge.

**Electronic devices**

You can use small lightweight electronic devices in airplane mode, but flight attendants may ask you to turn them off at different points of your flight.

Electronic device FAQs

* **When do I have to secure my electronic devices during my flight?**

On United operated flights, you can hold smaller devices in your hands throughout the flight. Larger items will have to be stored in the overhead bin for takeoff and landing. For your safety, always follow the instructions of the crew.

* **Can I take photos or videos on my flight?**

Taking photos and videos are allowed on your flight, but your recordings can’t interfere with crewmembers work and safety.

* **Can I bring a Hoverboard?**

For the safety of our customers and employees, we do not accept hoverboards as checked or carry-on baggage.

* **Will I be able to use Wi-Fi below 10,000 feet?**

No. Currently we don't offer Wi-Fi during takeoff and landing.

Lithium batteries

Follow these safety rules for traveling with lithium batteries:

* Completely turn off all devices with lithium-ion batteries that are in checked bags.
* Prevent short circuits by protecting battery terminals. This can be done with the manufacturer’s packaging or by covering with tape and placing in a separate bag.
* Store spare batteries in carry-on bags.
* Lithium-ion batteries can’t exceed 100 watt hours. Lithium metal batteries can’t exceed 2g.
* If you’re unsure about the battery, don’t pack it.

[Learn more about lithium batteries](https://www.united.com/ual/en/us/fly/travel/baggage/dangerous.html). The [DOT](https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/lithiumbatteries) and the [FAA](https://www.faa.gov/hazmat/packsafe/more_info/?hazmat=7) also has more information.

Device safety

**Lost Item**

If your device falls or gets stuck in a seat, ask a crew member to help you find it. If the item can’t be found, complete the [lost items form](https://www.united.com/en/us/fly/help/lost-and-found.html).

**Medical device**

If you have a prescribed medical device, such as a hearing aid or a pacemaker, you can always use it onboard. Learn more about [medical assistive devices](https://www.united.com/en/us/fly/travel/accessibility-and-assistance/medication.html).

**E-Cigarettes**

E-cigarettes and vapes can’t be used or charged onboard the plane. Pack them in your carry-on.

**Recalled Device**

Don’t pack a [recalled device](https://www.united.com/en/us/fly/baggage/dangerous-items.html), such as some MacBook Pro laptops and portable chargers. Damaged and recalled lithium batteries can overheat or catch fire.

Onboard use

If you plan to use electronic devices on your flight, you’ll need to follow these safety rules:

Approved electronic devices must be in airplane mode during flight.

You can use your approved devices except at takeoff and landing.

Laptops and plane power ports can only be used above 10,000 feet.

You can only use your phone service when the main cabin door is open or when instructed by a flight attendant.

**Devices you can use during your flight**

* Handheld gaming consoles
* Laptops (above 10,000 feet)
* DVD players
* Music players
* Calculators
* Shavers (in bathrooms only)
* Cameras
* Seat charging ports (above 10,000 ft)

**Devices you can't use during your flight**

* Air purifying respirators
* Personal humidifiers
* E-cigarettes and vapes
* TVs
* Blow dryers, bottle warmers and things that heat up
* Remote-control toys
* Radio receivers and transmitters