

The United States Postal Service (USPS) divides mail into different services, called "classes." Each class of mail has different features, service levels, postage prices, and presort requirements. To learn more about each class of mail—including what can be mailed, the minimum and maximum weights and sizes, and the number of pieces needed for commercial prices—click on the name of the class of mail.

- [Priority Mail](#): Anything mailable (i.e., bills, invoices, personal correspondence, merchandise).
- [First-Class Mail](#): Anything mailable (i.e., bills, invoices, personal correspondence, merchandise).
- [Periodicals](#): Newsletters, magazines; (formal authorization needed).
- [Standard Mail](#): Advertisements, circulars, newsletters, small parcels, merchandise.
- [Package Services and Standard Post](#): Merchandise, catalogs, printed material, computer media.

Refer to the matrix below to determine which class of mail represents the best match.

Class of Mail	Speed	Low Cost	Free Forwarding and Return	Extra Services
Priority Mail Express	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Priority Mail	Yes	Some options, yes	Yes	Yes
First-Class Mail	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Standard Mail	No	Yes	No	Only for parcels
Periodicals	Yes	Yes, for In-Country	Free Forwarding for 60 days	No
Package Services/Standard Post	No	Yes	No	Yes