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## Liquids and air travel - what are the requirements?

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### Liquids

Some liquids are allowed through airport security check points. There are however, restrictions on the quantity of liquids that can be taken through:



Passengers may carry small quantities of liquids, but only within separate containers each of which with a capacity not greater than 100ml.

These containers must be brought to the airport contained in a **single, transparent, re-sealable plastic bag (about the size of a small freezer bag)**, which itself must not exceed 1 litre in capacity (approximately 20cm x 20cm). The contents of the plastic bag must fit comfortably and the bag sealed. Each passenger may carry only one such bag of liquids.

The bag must be presented **separately** for examination at the airport security point.

**Please note:**

- Any containers larger than 100ml (excluding essential medicines, see section below) will NOT be allowed through the security search point.
- Most liquids of any amount may still be carried in hold baggage.
- **One** lighter per person may be carried through central search. Lighters form part of the allowance of liquid in the litre bag and can either be placed inside the litre bag or screened separately provided they would fit into the bag. It is very important that passengers do not place the lighter into their cabin bag after screening - it must be carried on the person for the duration of the flight. Lighters are NOT permitted in hold baggage.

Remember that 'Liquids' includes:

- All drinks, including water, soup, syrups
- Creams, lotions, oils, perfumes, mascara etc
- Sprays and pressurized containers including shaving foam and spray deodorants
- Pastes, including toothpastes
- Gels, including hair and shower gel
- Any other solutions and items of similar consistency

Please note that liquids can usually be purchased beyond airport security search points, in the departures area, as these liquids are subject to a separate screening process.

## **Essential medicines**

Essential medicines for the period of the trip may be permitted in larger quantities above the 100ml limit, but will be subject to authentication. Passengers must have obtained the prior agreement of the airline with which they are travelling and their departure airport. Passengers must also bring with them supporting documentation from a relevant qualified medical professional.

## **Essential medical equipment**

Passengers are permitted to carry through airport security medical equipment essential for use during the period of their trip. Where possible the equipment should be contained within the ONE item of cabin baggage and again should be accompanied by supporting documentation from a relevant qualified medical professional.

## **Baby Food**

Liquid baby food or sterilised water, sufficient for the journey, can be taken through airport security. The accompanying adult will be required to verify by tasting.

## Essential Liquid Dietary Foodstuffs

Liquid dietary foodstuffs which are deemed essential can be taken through airport security and will be subject to verification by the passenger.

## Cabin baggage and size allowed

From early January 2008 airports in the UK will gradually be able to accept additional hand luggage as they open up additional capacity. A list of the airports where the restriction has been lifted can be found [here](#). Arrangements at each airport will be different. Until otherwise informed by their airport or airline, passengers should continue to prepare to travel with just one item of cabin luggage.

The standard maximum size for hand luggage is 56cm x 45cm x 25cm, including wheels, handles and external pockets. (note: the 1 litre re-sealable bag must be able to fit within the cabin bag, although you will be required to present it separately at security). Be aware that some airlines may require a smaller bag under their own policies.

**Before departing we strongly suggest you check with your airline on the cabin baggage arrangements for your particular journey.**

Pushchairs, walking aids and wheelchairs are usually permitted but will be security screened. You should check with your airline.

## Laptops / electrical items

Laptops and other large electrical items (e.g. a large hairdryer) have to be removed from cabin baggage and screened separately. A laptop bag that is not contained within the one piece of cabin baggage is regarded as the one allowable item of cabin baggage.

## Outsize items

All items of luggage larger than the permitted cabin baggage size (maximum length 56 cm, width of 45 cm and depth of 25 cm, including wheels, handles and external pockets) must be checked in to be placed in the aircraft hold. The only exception is musical instruments. These are allowed as a second item of cabin baggage if they do not fit into the cabin bag. They will however need to be screened and passengers should check with their airlines as to whether there are special arrangements (e.g. purchasing an extra seat) for these large instruments.

**For related documents, pages and internet links, see the column on the [right](#).**