



Customs Guide **SAUDI ARABIA**

Information from FIDI Middle East & North Africa

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GOODS	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS	REMARKS
<p>Removal Goods</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ From the Origin Agent: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Copy of AWB (for airfreights). ▪ Original OBL (for sea freights). ▪ Descriptive Inventory / Packing List. ▪ Itemized Valued Inventory. ▪ Certificate of insurance (if applicable). ▪ From the consignee at destination: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Authorization Letter(s) attested by the Saudi Chamber of Commerce (formats to be provided to the consignee upon arrival at destination). ▪ For government hired employees, only the seal of the agency is required. ▪ Copy of consignee's passport with the entry visa page. ▪ Copies of Residence Permit (Iqama) or Saudi National's ID (Bataqa). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Customs Duties vary from 5% to 20 %. ▪ Books and used clothing at reasonable quantities are exempted from customs duties. ▪ Photos, books, video tapes, CD are subject to inspection by the security office. ▪ 5% VAT applicable on destination services and declared value of the cargo for import shipments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If receipts / invoices are not available, all items will be assessed by the Customs Authority based on local value. ▪ All containerized shipments must be on pallets or in lift vans failure of which the Seaport Authority will impose penalty for bad stowage (loose loaded): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Penalty: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ US\$ 95.00 – Per 20 ft, ▪ US\$ 202.00 – Per 40 ft container. ▪ Consignee or the owner of the shipment must be in Saudi Arabia at the time of customs clearance, otherwise shipment will not be cleared. ▪ ONLY Customs POA Authorization and Iqama copy is required. ▪ Consignee attendance during Customs Inspection is NOT required. ▪ Saudi customs regulations are modified regularly. This information is only a brief summary of the rules regarding customs clearance in Saudi Arabia applicable to incoming household goods and personal

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			<p>effects shipments only, and is being provided for general guidance to assist shippers and agents. Since such regulations are subject to change without prior notice, any costs, damages, delays, or any other detrimental facts or events resulting from non-compliance is solely for the account of the shipper and/or origin agent. In order to be guided accordingly, please, contact your destination agent in Saudi Arabia to further assist you on your move requirements and documentations, or you may check with your local Saudi Embassy or Consulate Office.</p>
<p>Electrical / Electronic Appliances (for new items only)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Purchase Receipts / Invoice. ▪ Descriptive Inventory for air shipments must be attached to the Airway Bill. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Subject to customs duty - 5 % of CIF Value 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In the absence of purchase receipts, the Customs Authority will assess the goods based on local value.
<p>Prohibited Goods</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All games of chance (gambling paraphernalia) including chess sets, dice, backgammon and the likes. * ▪ Animal skin in commercial quantity. ▪ Weapons and firearms (real or ornamental, and/or antiques) including guns, ammunition, fireworks, spears, etc. If imported, owner will be subject to investigation that may result in fines and / or prison. * ▪ Military uniforms or military equipment of any kind. * ▪ Alcoholic beverages, any food products containing alcohol such as Vanilla, flavoring extract, cooking wines, etc. ▪ Books, wine making kits, or any other items used in the preparation or manufacture of alcoholic drinks and beverages. ▪ Any kind of narcotics and/or unidentified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Items marked with asterisk (*) can be re-exported at shipper/consignee's expense. ▪ If such items are in a PE & HHG shipment, Customs Authority will remove them from the container for censorship or review. ▪ To reduce the time for clearance, these items must be packed separately for easy access and carton/s must be marked clearly and on the inventory; or you may send them off by air. ▪ Bringing these items without declaration, especially wines and/or any alcoholic beverages, will be considered as a smuggling attempt, hence, heavy penalty will be imposed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aside from confiscation of the item, a

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		<p>medicines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any type of radio transmitter or communications equipment (including receivers, VHF, Marine, police bands or walkie-talkies).* ▪ Stuffed Animals, statues, figurines, carving or objects depicting human or animal form* ▪ Pornographic materials and literatures to include fashion magazines with people wearing underwear or swimsuits. ▪ Any foodstuffs containing alcohol, pork and related pork meat products, etc. ▪ Any books pertaining to religion other than Islam. ▪ Christmas tree and its decoration. <p>▪ Goods Subject to Censorship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Exposed film, including prints, slides, etc. ▪ Records, books, magazines, pictures/photos, & other printed matters. ▪ Personal computers, audio/video CD's, diskettes, USB's, computer hard disks, printers. ▪ Mobile or Cellular phones. ▪ Audio/video VHS/VCR/cassette tapes, phonograph recordings. ▪ Or, any other items that store information. 	<p>penalty of US\$ 200.00 for a bottle of wine.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For large quantity, the shipper/consignee will be brought to court and may be imprisoned. <p>▪ Prohibited items are subject to automatic confiscation.</p> <p>▪ All incoming shipments to Saudi Arabia are subject to rigorous full physical inspection (100%).</p> <p>▪ A penalty will be charged to the consignee for CD's, VCR tapes and books confiscated after the censorship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ US\$ 135.00 each for CD's & VCR tapes, and US\$ 14.00 each for books.
Motors / Cars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New and used cars: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Title Certificate / Car Registrations. ▪ Saudi Arabian Standard Organization (SASO) Conformity Certificate still to obtain from the country of origin. ▪ Police Clearance / de-registrations from the country of origin for export. ▪ Other proofs of ownership i.e. Purchase 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vehicles over 5 years old are not allowed. ▪ Customs duty for cars is 5 % based on customs final assessed value by customs books. ▪ Right hand drive cars are not accepted. ▪ Expatriates are only allowed to bring-in one car. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any personal belongings are not allowed inside the car. ▪ SASO Conformity Certificate may be secured in Saudi Arabia locally. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SASO office may require replacement or conversion to some parts of the car to meet the SASO Standard at owner /

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	<p>Invoice if it is available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Proof of payment for new car if it is available. 		<p>consignee's expense.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Application for the SASO Conformity Certificate may be rejected and may be required to re-export the car back to origin at owner's expense.
Diplomatic Removals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Authorization Letter ▪ Copies of diplomatic ID & passport. ▪ Customs Duty & Inspection Exemption Certificate 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diplomats shall obtain Duty & Inspection Exemption Certificate from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, otherwise, their shipment will be considered as an ordinary cargo thereby, subjected to full physical inspection and duty payment.



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