

USA → Canada Shipping Checklist

Docs, AES/ITN, and pickup/delivery tips for cross border car shipping

Quick Overview

For vehicles exported from the United States to Canada, the U.S. requires an Automated Export System

(AES) filing. We submit AES for you and provide your Internal Transaction Number (ITN). On the

Canadian side, you'll present proof of ownership and any required import paperwork. Use this checklist

to prepare fast and avoid delays.

What We Handle

- ✓ AES filing to obtain your ITN (for self-propelled vehicles).
- ✓ Carrier paperwork and border coordination with the driver/terminal.
- ✓ Timeline guidance and pickup/delivery coordination.

Documents You Provide (Upload clear photos/scans)

- Vehicle Title (or Registration if your state does not issue a title).
- Bill of Sale (if recently purchased).
- Government ID (driver's license or passport).
- Lienholder Letter of Authorization (only if there is an active lien).
- Canadian import paperwork if applicable (e.g., RIV eligibility for newer vehicles).

Vehicle Preparation

- Remove personal items (policies vary by carrier/route).
- Note existing damage; take date stamped photos of all sides.
- Factory ground clearance preferred; advise us about aftermarket kits.
- Fuel at ~¼ tank; secure loose parts/antenna.
- Provide one set of keys to the driver.

Pickup Day Tips

- Answer the driver's call/text; confirm access for a large truck or meet at a nearby wide street/lot.
- Have Title/keys ready; driver issues the Bill of Lading (BOL) at pickup.
- Sign BOL after you review the condition notes.

Border & Clearance (USA → Canada)

- We file AES and send you the ITN. Keep it handy in case officers request it.
- Bring proof of ownership and ID. If applicable, RIV fee/inspection details will be provided.
- Follow CBSA instructions for taxes/duties if assessed based on your VIN/origin.

Delivery

- Inspect the vehicle on arrival; compare to pickup photos.
- Note any transit damage on the BOL before signing.
- Final payment method as arranged (if COD/terminal).

Helpful Links

EPA Form 3520-1 (official page) <https://www.epa.gov/importing-vehicles-and-engines/publications-and-forms-importing-vehicles-and-engines> CBSA – Registrar of Imported Vehicles (RIV) <https://www.riv.ca/>

US Canada Auto Transport – Customs & Documents

<https://www.uscanadaautotransport.com/us-canada-customs-documents/>

Note: Requirements can vary by vehicle age/VIN and route. We'll confirm exactly what applies when you request a quote.