

This guide is compiled from the FIDI Customs Guide for reference only. Customs regulations change frequently; please consult your Seapoe relocation consultant for the latest requirements before shipping.

Updated 2025

## Removal goods

### Documents Required

- UAE Emirates ID
- Inventory/packing list copy.
- Express or Original BL.
- Passport copy and valid UAE residence visa.
- Authorization letter to moving company for clearance and collection of documents from shipping line / airline.
- Authorization letter addressed to the shipping line for release of delivery order.

### Customs Prescriptions

- Importation is allowed provided the shipment consists of personal effects and used household goods only.
- All used personal effects and household goods are exempted of duty.
- Brand new items will attract Custom duty at 5% of the CIF value.
- If the invoice is not provided for the same items, Custom Inspectors will assess a value for the same and on the assessed value 5 % will be levied as Customs duty, 5% VAT on the duty amount plus processing charges.
- If the original invoice is missing for brand new item, a fee of USD 300 will apply.

### Remarks

- UAE residence visa is compulsory for Custom clearance and to get delivery order from shipping line.
- Almost all shipments will go through a physical inspection / X-ray.
- Therefore, it is necessary and suggested to pack all similar items in nature like books, CD's, video's, DVD, magazines in separate cartons and marked clearly so that they can be easily identified by Customs and released if in order quickly.
- For this physical examination, additional charges are also applicable issued by UAE customs / port authority as warehouse handling.

## Diplomats' removals

### Documents Required

- Same as above, and below:
- Original Letter from Ministry of foreign affairs for exemption of customs duty with importer code.
- B/L should mention that it is Diplomatic Cargo.

### Remarks

- Same as above.

## Commodity shipments

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### Documents Required

- All original documents and required:
- Legalised CIF invoice.
- Certificate of Origin from chamber of commerce in origin country - this can be omitted if the invoice mentions the country of origin.
- Inventory / packing list.
- BL / AWB.
- Importers Code with UAE customs.

### Customs Prescriptions

- 5% duties on the CIF / invoice value evaluated by UAE Customs. 5% VAT plus processing charges as per the government regulation. If the original documents are missing, a fee of USD 300 will apply.

### Remarks

- Flat duty on all kind of items imported as new and having commercial value.

## Prohibited items

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### Customs Prescriptions

- Weapons,
- Firearms (real or ornamental),
- Ammunition,
- Fire crackers,
- Swords, daggers, spears, etc.,
- Military uniform or equipment,
- Alcohol, spirits, narcotics of all kinds
- Poppy seeds and flowers, leaves etc.,
- Banned drugs and medicines, medicines in large quantities even obtained under prescription and for the consignee's own use,
- Radio transmitter or communication equipment,
- Statues and figures of animals with religious undertone,
- Carvings and statues of humans especially in nude,
- Pornographic materials,
- Gambling material,
- Foodstuff in large quantities,
- Religious books other than dealing with Islamic beliefs, controversial political literature and materials contrary to an Islamic State's principles.

### Remarks

- If any of these items is found in the shipment during the inspection by the UAE Customs, the same will be confiscated and in some cases, explanation will be asked from the consignee and severe punishment will be imposed including fine or imprisonment.

## Restricted items

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### Customs Prescriptions

- Records, tapes, films, photographs, books, magazines, periodicals, 2-wheel hover board etc.
- Live plants, seeds, fresh fruits and flowers are coming under restricted items, if found

objectionable, they will destroy the same and never return these to the consignee.

- Drones - licence from Dubai Civil Aviation Authority is required.
- Printed material (brochures, advertising leaflets) – Authorisation from the National Media Council is required.

#### Remarks

- These items will be subject to review and censorship by the UAE Ministry of Information.
- These items will be released if nothing abnormal is found.
- This procedure will take from 10 to 15 days.

## Dangerous items

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#### Customs Prescriptions

- Combustible liquids, corrosives, explosives, flammable, compressed gases.

#### Remarks

- Please contact your agent should you have any questions concerning these dangerous items.
- If any of these items were shipped, this would put you and your company liable for damages and compensation under international tax, which is also applicable in UAE.