



## Customs Guide **GERMANY**

Information from FIDI Germany

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**The global quality standard for international moving.**

The FAIM label is your global assurance for a smooth, safe and comprehensive relocation process.

GOODS	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS	REMARKS
<p><b>Removal goods</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Customs registration form 0350.</li> <li>▪ Notice of foreign authority about change of residency showing how long the person lived outside EU (ABMELDBESTAETIGUNG) or</li> <li>▪ A letter from a third party (employer, German Embassy) confirming that the shipper has lived or planned to live more than 12 months in a foreign country.</li> <li>▪ Registration of the shipper at his new residence in Germany (ANMELDBESTAETIGUNG).</li> <li>▪ Copy of the shippers' passport.</li> <li>▪ Renting contract of a domicile (if possible).</li> <li>▪ Contract of employment (if possible).</li> <li>▪ Goods inventory list.</li> <li>▪ A letter signed by shipper that following goods are not part of the shipment is useful: firearms – alcohol – tobacco – cigarettes – tea – coffee.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Duty free entry if:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The shipper has lived more than 12 months or planned to live more than 12 month in a country outside the EU.</li> <li>▪ The removal goods are imported within one year of the owner establishing his permanent residence in Germany.</li> <li>▪ The household goods and /or vehicles have been owned and used for a minimum of 6 months prior to shipping date (vessel departure) to Germany.</li> <li>▪ The removal goods shall be re-used in Germany for the identical purposes.</li> <li>▪ The goods must stay in possession of the importers for 12 months after importation.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Duty free import for HHG with final destination in Germany can only be granted by German Customs Authorities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Removal goods are:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Household good items that the owner already used at his previous domicile.</li> <li>▪ Portable instruments and tools used for skilled manual work or self-employed business.</li> <li>▪ Vehicles for private use (for details see page 3 “Vehicles for private use”).</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Please note that for goods with a single value of more than EUR 5000 the individual value has to be specified.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Wedding trousseaux</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Marriage certificate.</li> <li>▪ Proof that the person has lived or planned to live more than 12 months outside the EU.</li> <li>▪ Registration of the shipper at his new residence in Germany (ANMELDBESTAETIGUNG).</li> <li>▪ Inventory list.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Duty free entry if:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The items are belonging to persons transferring his/her permanent residence from a non-EU country to Germany because of the marriage with an EU Citizen.</li> <li>▪ Residence had been at least the previous 12 consecutive months outside EU.</li> <li>▪ The goods are imported between 2</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Duty free entry for:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Household good items that the owner already used at his previous domicile,</li> <li>▪ Wedding trousseaux,</li> <li>▪ Gifts (not exceeding EUR 1,000 in value per gift).</li> <li>▪ Excluded from duty free entry are Gifts exceeding the value of 1.000 Euro per item.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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		<p>months before the wedding and 4 months after it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The goods are not leave the possession of the importers for twelve months after importation.</li> <li>▪ If the household goods are imported before the marriage, proof is needed that the marriage will take place within 2 months (the time limit may be extended upon request).</li> </ul>	
<b>Inheritance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Certificate of inheritance, testament or other proof of justification.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Duty free entry.</li> <li>▪ The inheritor or legatee must have his permanent residence or in the EU.</li> <li>▪ Entry of the inherited goods within 2 years after their coming into his/her possession.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ By inherited property it is meant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Used objects for which legatee can furnish proof, that he received the goods from the testator (only in case of death) and that these goods constitute his share of the inheritance or legacy.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Excluded from duty free entry are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Tobacco and Alcohol.</li> <li>▪ Commercial vehicles.</li> <li>▪ Commercially used objects and equipment (except for portable tools and instruments).</li> <li>▪ Stocks of raw materials, or finished or half-finished products.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Vehicles for private use</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Copy of ownership document.</li> <li>▪ Copy of the last registration in a foreign country for a minimum of 6 months prior to shipping the vehicle to Germany.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Duty free entry provided the person who is importing it has used the car for at least 6 months before.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ After the customs clearance, a technical inspection performed by the vehicle registration office is required. Then a title will be issued.</li> <li>▪ Vehicles from the third countries, which have been declared at German customs for transfer into free circulation, are subject to the German Motor Vehicle Tax (KRAFTFAHRZEUGSTEUER). An exemption for travel to the place of registration in Germany is not provided. If applicable, the</li> </ul>

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			driver has to submit a tax declaration to the German border customs, the tax is payable immediately on the spot.
<b>Commercial vehicles, commercial goods and non-portable equipment for craftsmen or self-employed persons</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Subject to payment of duties.</li> </ul>	
<b>Spirits, wine, tobacco</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Subject to payment of duties.</li> <li>▪ Import of alcohol is allowed for diplomats but limited within the annual quota agreed by the local Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the respective embassies in the country. A special declaration signed and stamped by the embassy applicable has to be submitted at <a href="https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Downloads/BMF_Schreiben/Steuerarten/Umsatzsteuer/Umsatzsteuer-Anwendungserlass/027_a.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&amp;v=4">https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Downloads/BMF_Schreiben/Steuerarten/Umsatzsteuer/Umsatzsteuer-Anwendungserlass/027_a.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&amp;v=4</a></li> </ul>	
<b>Food</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Duty free entry as part of HHG, provided in quantities, which can be considered as normal provisions.</li> <li>▪ The importation of all meat or meat by-products, poultry, fish, milk or milk by-products is however prohibited (e.g. sausage).</li> </ul>	
<b>Arms, ammunition, dangerous objects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ German Gun licence.</li> <li>▪ Hunting permit.</li> <li>▪ Valid German permit to import the weapon(s).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Importation of objects falling under the arms register needs an authorisation. Importation forbidden for objects, which are mentioned in Annex 2 of the law on arms.</li> </ul>	

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<b>Domestic animals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Every pet (dogs, cats, ferrets) that comes from a third country and is imported into the EC must be:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ clearly identifiable by microchip or a readable tattoo (microchip obligatory for pets marked after 3 July 2011),</li> <li>▪ properly vaccinated against rabies,</li> <li>▪ accompanied by a veterinary inspector's certificate in which the microchip or tattoo number is indicated. In addition, vaccination certificates and in some cases blood-test details must be carried.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If a blood test had been requested, a three-month waiting period must be observed from the date of the blood test until entering the EU.</li> <li>▪ It must also be borne in mind that no more than five animals may be brought in.</li> <li>▪ When importing dogs, the law on the restriction of the introduction or importing of fighting dogs is to be respected. This law bans importation of pit-bull terriers, American Staffordshire terriers, bull terriers and hybrids resulting from interbreeding or crossbreeding these breeds with other dogs. The ban also applies to other breeds that are considered dangerous according to regional regulations that apply in the German BUNDESLAND where the dog shall be permanently kept. Further information is available from the local ORDNUNGSAMT (town clerk's office).</li> </ul>	
<b>Forbidden Items</b>		<p>The importation of the below listed articles is only granted under special conditions or forbidden:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ mushrooms from Eastern Europe,</li> <li>▪ potatoes,</li> <li>▪ food of animal origin,</li> <li>▪ supplementary means of food,</li> <li>▪ organic seeds,</li> <li>▪ plants,</li> <li>▪ wood,</li> <li>▪ explosives,</li> <li>▪ radioactive stuff,</li> <li>▪ writings which are forbidden by the constitution or pornographic writings,</li> <li>▪ absinthe,</li> <li>▪ methyl alcohol,</li> <li>▪ pure alcohol,</li> </ul>	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ narcotics,</li> <li>▪ wine,</li> <li>▪ grape juice and other various foodstuffs and consumer goods in large quantity, which are usually held as provisions,</li> <li>▪ various fodders as well as goods concerned by the Washington protection agreement.</li> </ul>	
Wood		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ EU applies the ISPM 15 standard related to the treatment of solid wood packaging and dunnage (wood used to wedge or support non-wood cargo). All arriving solid wood packaging must carry the ISPM15 mark indicating that all the timber has received appropriate treatment. The approved measures are heat treatment and fumigation.</li> <li>▪ Failure to include the ISPM15 mark will result in either the timber being ordered for examination or mandatory treatment.</li> <li>▪ Excepted from ISPM15 mark: raw wood of 6mm thickness or less, processed wood producer by glue, heat and pressure.</li> </ul>	



## The FIDI Global Alliance

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