

What is a Freight Class?

Freight Class is the category of freight as defined by the National Motor Freight Traffic Association, or NMFTA. The class of the shipment is directly related to the shipping charges associated with that shipment. The class of any cargo is determined by its contents; different types of products have different shipping costs. The National Motor Freight Classification guide is used by shippers and carriers to categorize and group commodities in preparation for interstate and intrastate transport in North America.

Freight classification is based on four transportation characteristics which are *density, stowability, handling and liability*. The biggest factor in determining the class is the density. The more dense the commodity is, the lower the freight class. The commodities are typically assigned one of eighteen different classes, which range from a low of 50 to a high of 500, with 50 as the least expensive and 500 as the most costly. When shipping commodities, it is imperative to select the correct freight class. Otherwise, the carrier has an obligation to re-class the shipment, which could potentially result in higher shipping charges than initially expected.

***\*\*\* When using the AllCargo.com Search Engine for determining your estimated freight cost, it is crucial that you know and enter the correct freight class, weight, and dimensions in advance to get quotes. This will ensure that you receive accurate freight shipping quotes from the beginning and will minimize any additional charges due because of freight re-classes and re-weighs after delivery. \*\*\****

If you schedule a shipment based on the wrong NMFC class or weight entered into the AllCargo.com Search Engine, then the original rate quoted becomes null and void. The carrier will re-class and re-weigh the shipment with the corrected actual values, which may increase your freight rate which is due and payable.

All Carrier's verify the freight class and weight provided on the BOL / Bill of Lading shipping document. After the carrier picks up your shipment, they will weigh your goods at their terminal and verify the weight and freight class you provided on our bill of lading. If the class or weights on the BOL are incorrect, they will re-class or re-weigh and bill us accordingly. The carrier's charge for their services is based on the actual weight and class of the shipment, as determined by them, plus any extra services or "accessorial charges" required to facilitate the transport of your shipment (lift gate, residential delivery, etc.) regardless of what's stated on the BOL.

You are responsible for any additional charges associated with your shipment which are a result of incorrect information provided to us. Please take the time and care to be certain that the freight class, weight, and dimensions of your shipment that you enter into the AllCargo.com Search Engine are accurate and correct. This will ensure that you are charged correctly. If you are unsure, our Team will be able to help you determine the correct class in advance of shipping in order to minimize the likelihood of a carrier's re-class and re-weigh that may result in higher than expected shipping costs.

Thank you.  
The AllCargo.com Team