



# AUTO SHIPPING CHECKLIST by National Express Auto Transport

## Getting Started – Drive or Ship?

- ☐ **1.** Research and Calculate Fuel Costs for Driving
  - ☐ **a.** Plan your route using <https://www.google.com/maps> .
  - ☐ **b.** Go to <https://www.calculator.net/fuel-cost-calculator.html> to get your fuel cost.
  - ☐ **c.** Check for Hotels on your route using <https://www.expedia.com/Hotels>
  - ☐ **d.** Insert Total Estimate Here: \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- ☐ **2.** Consider Auto Shipping and Calculate Costs for Shipping
  - ☐ **a.** Plan a 1-3 day window that you would like to get your vehicle picked up on.
  - ☐ **b.** Go to <https://nxautotransport.com/quote> to get a quote from us and pick a date.
  - ☐ **c.** Insert Total Quote Here: \_\_\_\_\_
  - ☐ **d.** Compare difference between the totals Here \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

## If You Choose to Ship

- ☐ **1.** Prepare the Vehicle
  - ☐ **a.** Check for loose parts under the vehicle. They can get caught up on the trailer. If you see anything strange, service the vehicle.
  - ☐ **b.** Check for fluid leaks. This is a courtesy in case your car rides above the others. This is also good practice in case there's a problem that could be a catastrophe down the road (literally!).
  - ☐ **c.** Empty out your vehicle. Take valuables. If taking personal items, place no more than 100 lbs. Insurance only covers the EXTERIOR of the vehicle.
  - ☐ **d.** If shipping to Hawaii or Puerto Rico. Please empty the vehicle. No items can go.

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*Be Prepared*

- ☐ **2. Prepare Yourself**
  - ☐ **a.** Take a look at the calendar. Make sure you are aware of other obligations you may have and make time to have your car picked up. Insert Desired Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Remember, that is your “first available / ready date” and you need 1-4 days from that date.
  - ☐ **b.** If selling or buying from an individual, make sure you get a title and Bill of Sale <https://nxautotransport.com/docs/forms/vehicle-bill-of-sale.pdf> – Cross this section out if it doesn’t apply to you.
  - ☐ **c.** If shipping to Hawaii or Puerto Rico find our Puerto Rico and Hawaii checklists at <https://nxautotransport.com/resources> – Cross this section out if it doesn’t apply.
  - ☐ **d.** If moving, don’t forget to make your change of address for with the USPS. Go to <https://moversguide.usps.com/mgo/disclaimer> . – Cross this section out if it doesn’t apply.
  - ☐ **e.** Remember to have someone able and ready to do inspections at pickup and drop-off. This is called the Bill of Lading. It is your proof of the condition for the vehicle when it is picked up. You must sign and keep a copy from pickup to compare at delivery should damage occur so it can be claimed.

## If Deciding to Ship and Not Using National Express

- ☐ **1. Do Research this is a TOUGH industry.**
  - ☐ **a.** Check FMCSA for licensing. No Licensing or name/address mismatch? It is a lead provider (several companies will get a copy of your information to solicit you) Go to [https://li-public.fmcsa.dot.gov/LIVIEW/pkg\\_carrquery.prc\\_carrlist](https://li-public.fmcsa.dot.gov/LIVIEW/pkg_carrquery.prc_carrlist) . Check to make sure they are active.
  - ☐ **b.** Check reviews. Go to <https://google.com> or <https://duckduckgo.com> or <https://bing.com> and search for “company name reviews” Look for BBB accredited companies only.
  - ☐ **c.** Ask to see the agreement BEFORE booking. Not possible? Don’t use them. Look for anything that states they can change the price or can charge for just looking for a carrier. All these are pitfalls.
  - ☐ **d.** Ask if the price is GUARANTEED. Make sure the price you book is the price you pay. It is common for there to be hidden fees are upcharges at the end.

## If Deciding to Drive *Instead* of Shipping

- ☐ 1. Prepare the vehicle for your cross-country trip.
  - ☐ a. Service the vehicle. Check oil, brakes, A/C, washer fluid, tires, everything. You are about to drive a long distance and a breakdown will be the last thing you need.
  - ☐ b. Don't overpack your vehicle. Putting extra stress on the vehicle can cause wear and tear you may not discover right away. You could damage the suspension and tires. This can also affect braking response, acceleration, gas mileage and more.
  - ☐ c. Make sure what you pack is secured in case you need to suddenly brake. Loose items can easily fly forward and injure you or your passengers.
  - ☐ d. Make a plan to drive only a certain number of hours per day and try using google maps to figure out where all the rest stops and gas stations are so you know in advance.
  - ☐ e. When driving remember to never let the tank go less than a quarter tank or 25% battery in case you are driving through a long stretch without any gas stations or charging stations.
  - ☐ f. Hydrate during the trip, take plenty of snacks so you are not driving hungry or thirsty while far from places to eat.
  - ☐ g. Don't spend long periods of time without using the restroom.  
<https://www.healthline.com/health/holding-pee>
  - ☐ h. Safety First! Do not speed through vast stretched of empty highway. If your vehicle is not used to these higher speeds, you may damage the vehicle. Just as importantly is that though it looks like nobody is there certain states have hidden radars or even air patrol to catch speeders. Both damage and speeding tickets will put a time and money crunch on your plans
  - ✓ i. Cross out this whole list and go back to the drawing board. Just ship with National Express!! <https://nxautotransport.com>