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INTERNATIONAL VEHICLE SHIPMENTS
Thinking of **sending** your car, truck or tractor **overseas**? International vehicle shipments can be **a daunting process** if you don't have the help **of an expert**. This helpful guide aims to illuminate **the process**.

8 THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE SHIPPING A VEHICLE ABROAD
This guide is designed to help **future importers** and exporters better understand the **end-to-end process** of international shipping, while avoiding potential **transport delays** and additional costs. Whether it's a car **for personal use**, or a tractor for commercial purposes, each point can be applied to a variety of vehicle types, applications, origins and **international destinations**.

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1. TRANSPORT
The method used to ship vehicles is **commonly determined** by the sea freight services available **from origin to destination** and overall associated costs.
Shipping Containers: Most vehicles are **small enough** to fit inside a standard 20ft or 40ft shipping container.

Roll-On, Roll-Off (RORO): The vehicle is physically **driven on and off** the vessel. The service is **subject to** availability which can be limited depending on the origin and destination.

Out of Gauge (OOG): If RORO services are **unavailable and the vehicle** is too large to fit inside a 20ft or 40ft shipping container, out of gauge shipping is required. **Oversized cargo is typically** placed on a flatrack container (a shipping container without sides or top) and secured for transport.
Pickup and **delivery considerations** (i.e. door to door or port to port delivery) are an additional transport and budget consideration. Where **the hire of a shipping container** is required, shippers commonly opt to drop-off the vehicle at an agreed packing location **for onward delivery to** port. Similar considerations are required at destination.

Transport timeframes **can vary from just** a few days (between New Zealand and Australia) to a month (New Zealand to Europe) depending on origin and destination, service **availability** and transshipment **requirements** (transfer cargo from one **ship** to another at port for onward sailing).

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2. OVERALL COSTS
Costs vary depending on a variety of **factors**, such as carrier expenses from origin to **destination**, taxes and tariffs, regulatory **expenses** (i.e. Customs Clearances), documentation processing, etc. We **recommend** transport overheads are weighed **against** the value of the vehicle, keeping in **mind** the loss on selling locally and **buying** at destination if you forgo shipping.

3. INSURANCE
A variety of optional insurance packages **are** available, **providing** additional peace of mind. Costs are **typically** based on the price of the **vehicle** (either agreed or valued) and the level of insurance **required** (restricted or full). We recommend you take **detailed** photos of the vehicle prior to shipping in order to document any pre-existing **scratches** and dents which can be used (if **required**) to make an **insurance** claim.

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4. TAXES

Government taxes, **duties** and tariffs are country/state **specific**, with consideration to the following (amongst **other** factors)...
Vehicle's purpose (i.e. **personal** or commercial use, sale, etc.).
The year the vehicle was **manufactured**.
The **value** of the vehicle.
Some tax **exemptions** are available depending on the country. For example, in New Zealand non-**commercial** vehicle importers may be asked to sign a deed **agreeing** not to sell the vehicle for at least two years to avoid **Goods** and Services Tax (GST).

5. CUSTOMS

All vehicle imports and exports must be **cleared** by local customs and other **regulatory** agencies (i.e. Ministry of **Primary** Industries) before delivery can be permitted. Applicable local forms and **permits** are required in order to facilitate clearance in **addition** to successful inspection (if carried out). Regulatory expenses are a further cost **consideration**.

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6. DOCUMENTATION

The **satisfactory** completion and supply of transport **documentation** is required by carriers and regulatory **agencies** (amongst possible others) at various points of the shipping process. Submission **errors** or delays can result in fines and delivery suspension.

7. LEFT OR RIGHT-HAND DRIVE?

Depending **on** the destination country, restrictions can **apply** to the import of left-**hand** drive cars and trucks **where** right-hand drive vehicles are **permitted** (or vice versa). In **some** instances (typically depending **on** the age and classification of **the** vehicle), it may need **to be converted** at the owner's expense before it can be driven **on local roads**. In most cases this is either too costly or impractical, especially if the vehicle has modern airbags and crumble zone **protection** installed.

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8. PREPARE THE VEHICLE FOR TRANSPORT
Ensure your **vehicle** is physically ready and **safe** for transport.
Remove all personal items **from** the vehicle.
Thoroughly wash and **clean** the vehicle. Pay particular care to **remove** any build-up of soil **around the tyres** and beneath the chassis which can be classified as a biosecurity risk in some countries.
Disconnect the **battery**.
Turn off or disable any **vehicle** alarms.
If the vehicle is stowed in a 20ft or 40ft **shipping** container for transport, ensure the fuel tank is **empty**. Champion Freight can arrange **this** at the time of packing if required. **Alternatively** , roll-on roll-off sea freight **services** require the fuel tank to be minimised, allowing just enough to drive the vehicle on **and** off the vessel.

Where **tofrom** here?

Why use a freight **forwarder**? details ways you can **save** money, time and stress throughout the **shipping** process.

Champion Freight offers shipping **reliability** and expert knowledge, ensuring prompt **international** transport of your vehicle without the stress. Packages can be customised to match **your needs and budgets**. Please contact us if you have any questions relating **to** the import or export of vehicles, or complete our free **no-obligation** quote request for details on price.

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