A young company often grows faster than anyone expected. That's certainly exhilarating, but can be exhausting as well. Owners may be tempted to make “knee-jerk” decisions about shipping, so they can focus on what they know best — running the business.

But when it comes to getting product into the hands of customers, UPS knows every business is different. And there’s no such thing as a one-size-fits-all solution for picking up packages ready for shipment.

So whether you’re traveling and need a pickup at an alternate location or have ground, air and international shipments all ready to go at once, flexibility and scalability are key. In this article, George Downs, a marketing manager at UPS, outlines various pickup options as a primer:

- **UPS On-Call Pickup®.** “This is the first service level we provide, for companies that have outgrown using a drop-box or nearby The UPS Store,” Downs says. You can call to schedule a driver pickup on the same day or a future day, with no limit on the number of packages. The fee is $6.80 per same-day request, or $5.80 for a future-day pickup.

- **UPS Smart Pickup®.** UPS leverages technology so that when you print a label with a UPS shipping system, (examples include ups.com or WorldShip®), the system automatically notifies a driver to stop by and pick it up. “You only get pickups when you need them.” The flat fee for this service is $11.85 per week.

- **Day-Specific Pickup.** “Let’s say you’re a salesperson and you are on the road four days a week. You process orders over the weekend, and want to ship them all on Monday,” Downs says. “We can arrange to have a scheduled pickup on a specific business day that fits your need.” Fees start at $11.85 per week and increase depending on shipping volume and the number of weekly pickups.

- **Daily On-Route Pickup.** With this option, a driver stops by every business day when he or she is in your neighborhood, but not at a specific scheduled time. “This is a good option when you can be flexible about pickup times,” says Downs. When weekly billings are $75 or more the cost is $11.90 per week.

- **Daily Pickup.** Shipments are picked up automatically, usually in mid- to late-afternoon, at a scheduled time. “The driver will stop in, day in or day out, whether you have a package going out or not,” Downs says. It’s a good option for businesses that ship every day and need a predictable, scheduled approach. Scheduled daily pickup costs $12.90 per week on weekly billings of $75 or more.

“These options are not necessarily dependent on shipping volume,” says Downs. “It's really a matter of customer preference, and figuring out what best fits your situation.” Some companies just arrange for routine daily or on-demand pickup to help keep their business running predictably, he says. “But the fact is that customers can save money by choosing the option that best fits their needs.”

---

**Did You Know?**

UPS will pick up all of your ground, air, and international packages at the same time. There's no need for multiple pickups like other carriers.

Are you a traveling business owner? You can request UPS to pick up packages at a location other than your normally scheduled pickup location!

- Need a last-minute pickup at your business? It's as easy as calling 1-800-PICK-UPS® (1-800-742-5877).