



IMPORTING FURNITURE INTO AUSTRALIA

FACT SHEET

Importing furniture and homewares into Australia can be complex. In this quick guide, we outline some key areas to be aware of to *minimise delays and costs on arrival*.

WHAT ARE YOUR FURNITURE OR HOMEWARES MADE FROM?

The type of furniture and homewares and the materials used to manufacture them determine the treatment and documentation required for importation.

SOLID TIMBER

Solid timber is the highest risk material and should be treated prior to export. Normal fumigants will not treat Oversize Timber exceeding 200mm in all directions. Any logs or furniture of this size needs special handling organised prior to export.

PLYWOOD

Plywood is an engineered wood and not as high risk as solid timber. Plywood articles only require a newly manufactured plywood declaration from your supplier for clearance. Include plywood in the product description.

Non-solid timbers (MDF and particleboard)

Are lower risk wooden commodities. Include the type of material used in the product description on the commercial invoice or declare on a Manufacturer's Declaration.



FEATHERS

Manufacturers Declaration or Health Certificate may be required.

Feathers that are fully contained within manufactured articles need a Manufacturer's Declaration stating that the feathers are clean and free from animal tissue, plant material and soil and are fully contained within the manufactured product. Quarantine will normally release on this declaration.

Feathers not fully contained in a manufactured article are higher risk and will need to be treated by an approved provider prior to export. A Government Endorsed Manufacturer's Declaration, Health Certificate or Treatment Certificate will also be required.

PLANT MATERIALS

Treatment and/or Phytosanitary Certificate required for goods made from or containing any parts that are:

- Bamboo
- Cane, Rattan or plant fibre
- Other plant material

OTHER FURNISHINGS

Often these goods are covered with leather, wool, cotton or other soft fabric.

These furnishings are normally highly manufactured and should just be included in the description of the goods. However, if any shipments contain any animal hair fabrics or unprocessed materials, please check the requirements with ICE before shipping.

DOCUMENTS

Furniture imports normally require additional documents and treatment compared to other commodities. In addition to the commercial invoice, packing list, and packing declaration, furniture will also require one or more of the following **documents for Quarantine processing**. These documents and their requirements are outlined in BICON:



FUMIGATION CERTIFICATE

A certificate provided by the treatment provider that outlines the type and duration of treatment.

Will help avoid unpack and inspect in Australia, furniture and wooden articles require fumigation at origin.

WHEN REQUIRED

- Solid timber items and packing materials.
- Goods subject to BMSB measures.
- Where timber exceeds 200mm in every direction standard fumigation will not penetrate the goods. Other treatment options will be needed.

PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE

Government issued document from origin to confirm information provided about the processing, treatment or inspection of the shipment.

Details must be checked by broker.

WHEN REQUIRED

As outlined by BICON, where Government certification is required to confirm:

- Plant Species
- Processing
- Treatment/fumigation of goods
- Oversize timber (exceeding 200mm in every direction)

NEWLY MANUFACTURED PLYWOOD DECLARATION

A supplier produced declaration to verify that products were manufactured from new plywood.

WHEN REQUIRED

For plywood and products made from plywood.

SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY / NOT ILLEGALLY LOGGED CERTIFICATION

All furniture and wooden articles must be from **legally logged timber**. Provision of a sustainable forestry certificate will reduce quarantine risks.

WHEN REQUIRED

All importers are required to ensure their supply chain and products are free from illegal logging materials and that they comply with Illegal Logging Prohibition Regulations and Legislation.

STORAGE DECLARATION

A Declaration by the Manufacturer or Supplier to confirm that the products were stored in an appropriate way to minimise infestation or contamination between treatment and export.

WHEN REQUIRED

Whenever goods are not treated in the export shipping container.



WHAT CLIENTS CAN EXPECT

- Expect Quarantine intervention. Mostly this will be to check that documents are complete and correct.
- Expect to communicate with our friendly brokerage team – They can advise on the required treatment and documentation prior to export or may request information when processing with the Department of Agriculture.
- Some coatings and finishes cannot be penetrated by regular fumigants. If the goods are lacquered or coated they may need to be unpacked and inspected prior to release, even if they have been fumigated prior to export.



international cargo express
www.icecargo.com.au
1300 227 461

