

Mailbox Size & Construction Standards

A mailbox with the Postmaster General's (PMG) seal of approval meets USPS size and construction standards. If you build your own or buy a custom-made one, it must meet the PMG Standards. Show your local postmaster your mailbox plans or your custom-made box for approval.

Where to Place the Mailbox (Roadside/ Curbside)

Here are some helpful guidelines to follow when placing your mailbox:

- Position your mailbox 41" to 45" from the road surface to the bottom of the mailbox or point of entry.
- Place your mailbox 6" to 8" back from the curb/ road edge.
- Put your house number on the mailbox.
- If your mailbox is on a different street from your house, put your full address on the mailbox.

Installing the Mailbox Post

The Federal Highway Administration recommends:

- A 4 x 4 wooden support or a 2" diameter standard steel or aluminum post
- Avoid unyielding and potentially dangerous supports like heavy metal pipes, concrete posts, and farm equipment (e.g.- milk cans filled with concrete)
- Bury your post no more than 24"

Maintenance

Mailboxes take a beating from the weather, so we recommend an annual mailbox checkup to avoid damage to your mail or difficulty identifying your address.

- Tighten loosen hinges on the door
- Take care of rusty or loosen parts
- Replace missing or fading house numbers
- Keep the path to your mailbox clear