

Before the move

Shipping your car

This notice sets out the fuel and battery rules for a car shipped in a container, as the International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code states them. Read this before your car is packed. It does not cover fully electric cars, so tell us early if yours is one.

01 The fuel tank

A car in a container is not shipped as dangerous goods when it meets the condition for its fuel below and the battery condition in 02.

THE CAR RUNS ON	THE CONDITION
Petrol, or another flammable liquid fuel with a flashpoint below 38°C	The fuel tank is empty. A car is empty of fuel when the fuel tank has been drained and the car cannot be operated due to a lack of fuel. Fuel lines, fuel filters and injectors do not need to be cleaned, drained or purged, and the fuel tank does not need to be cleaned or purged.
A flammable liquid fuel with a flashpoint of 38°C or above	There are no leaks in any part of the fuel system, and the fuel tank contains 450 L of fuel or less.
A flammable gas, liquefied or compressed	The fuel tank is empty, the positive pressure in the tank does not exceed 2 bar, and the fuel shut-off or isolation valve is closed and secured.

A hybrid car with an internal combustion engine follows the row for the fuel its engine runs on.

IMDG Code, Amendment 42-24, special provisions 388 and 961, paragraph 2.3.2.6 and entry UN 1203.

02 The battery

The batteries installed in the car must be protected from short circuit.

Batteries the car needs to operate must be securely installed in it.

A damaged or defective lithium battery installed in a car must be removed from it, unless the competent authority approves otherwise.

IMDG Code, Amendment 42-24, special provisions 376, 388 and 961.

03 If your car does not meet 01 and 02

A car that does not meet the fuel condition in 01 and the short circuit condition in 02 is dangerous goods, class 9, under the IMDG Code. Under clause 9 of our terms, we do not move dangerous goods.

IMDG Code, Amendment 42-24, special provision 962, and clause 9 of our terms.

04 Tell us early

Cars need their own paperwork, so tell us early and we explain what is needed.