# HOW TO IMPORT GOODS INTO CANADA

## STAGE 1: BEFORE IMPORTING

### 1. BUSINESS PLAN

*Your business plan is a roadmap to your success and a tool to measure your business’ progress.*

A business plan for importing doesn’t differ from a plan for a business buying and selling domestically.

For tips on writing a business plan, visit [sbbc.co/howtobizplan](http://sbbc.co/howtobizplan).

See our Business Plan Review Service ([sbbc.co/bizplanreview](http://sbbc.co/bizplanreview)) and business planning seminars ([sbbc.co/SBBCeduCal](http://sbbc.co/SBBCeduCal)) for help.

### 2. MARKET RESEARCH

*Market research is a vital part of your business plan, including creating a viability report.*

Before investing in importing goods, ensure demand exists for your product.

Learn about market research from Canada Business: [sbbc.co/CBNmarketresearch](http://sbbc.co/CBNmarketresearch)

See our Market Research Advisory Service ([sbbc.co/marketresearchcoaching](http://sbbc.co/marketresearchcoaching)) and market research seminars ([sbbc.co/SBBCeduCal](http://sbbc.co/SBBCeduCal)) for help.

### 3. REGULATIONS

*Investigate the relevant regulations for your business.*

Visit the Foreign Affairs and International Trade to find out if your goods are on control import list: [www.international.gc.ca](http://www.international.gc.ca)

Find out if your goods are regulated by a government department and agency: [sbbc.co/regulatedgoods](http://sbbc.co/regulatedgoods)

### 4. LABELING REQUIREMENTS

*Ensure that the goods are marked and labeled as required.*

Labeling standards have to be applied for Consumer products, pre-packaged foods, and cosmetics.

- **Textile, consumer products, precious metal**: Competition Bureau ([sbbc.co/labellinginfo](http://sbbc.co/labellinginfo))
- **Food products**: Canadian Food Inspection Agency ([sbbc.co/foodlabelling](http://sbbc.co/foodlabelling))
- **Cosmetics and health products**: Health Canada ([sbbc.co/cosmeticslabelling](http://sbbc.co/cosmeticslabelling))

### 5. TARIFFS AND DUTIES

*Obtain the Tariff classification (HS code), Tariff Treatment, duties, taxes of your goods.*

Determine the 10 digit tariff classification number (HS code) for each item imported.

To obtain tariff and duty contact Canada Border Service Agency 1-800-461-9999 or visit [www.cbsa.gc.ca](http://www.cbsa.gc.ca).

### 6. REGISTER YOUR BUSINESS

*Apply for a business name and register a sole proprietorship, partnership or a corporation: [sbbc.co/registerbusiness](http://sbbc.co/registerbusiness)*

See our Business Advisors for help: [sbbc.co/bcbizadvisor](http://sbbc.co/bcbizadvisor)

### 7. BUSINESS NUMBER

*Obtain an import/export business number.*

Obtain an import/export account, from Canada Revenue Agency at 1-800-959-5525 or [sbbc.co/BNregistration](http://sbbc.co/BNregistration).

See our registration services for importers: [sbbc.co/registerbusiness](http://sbbc.co/registerbusiness)
STAGE 2: AT THE BORDER

8. IMPORT DECLARATION B3 FORM
Complete the B3 form the day you receive the cargo control from the carrier (with a barcode). Visit the Canada Border Service Agency website for advice on completing the form: sbbc.co/B3form

9. ACCOUNTING PACKAGE DOCUMENTS
Customs requires two (2) copies of:
- Cargo Control Document (CCD), provided by your carrier
- Canada Customs Invoice or Commercial Invoice
- All import permits certificates or licenses required
- Completed B3 import declaration completed

10. RELEASING OF GOODS
All duties and taxes should be paid at the border by the importer to one of the CBSA offices or by the custom broker.
On payment goods will be released for pick up.*

*Note: Should CBSA request to inspect your shipment, you are responsible for any costs incurred for the examination. Inspection of shipments can cause a delay to the delivery of good for up to a week.

DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START?

IMPORT REGISTRATION PACKAGE

$69
PLUS TAXES

- One-on-one trade consulting including import processes and requirements
- Import account setup and number
- Harmonized system code for import
- Tax and duty rates
- Tariff treatment research
- And more!

READY FOR THE NEXT STEP?

ARE YOU THINKING OF IMPORTING?

$59
PLUS TAXES

- Learn the basics of international trade, understand the use of Incoterms, means of payment, regulations
- Acquire the knowledge to be ready to import
- Receive the tools to develop an import plan

CONTACT

CLIENT SERVICES
604-775-5525 | 1-800-667-2272 | askus@smallbusinessbc.ca

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