

## Mailing Magnets

Mailing refrigerator-type (flexible) magnets has never been more prevalent than in our present environment, as customers continue to tap their direct marketing creativity. Mailing magnets is often a source of concern because some magnetized materials as defined in *Domestic Mail Manual* (DMM) C023.11.5 are considered hazardous material. Over the last 4 years, in conjunction with the Postal Service Engineering staff, we have performed extensive testing that provides guidelines for mailing some types of magnetized materials, such as refrigerator magnets. These reviews, along with the technical advancement in our processing equipment, now allow some flexibility in accepting certain magnets. The following does not change the standards in C023.11.5 regarding magnet field strength; rather, it should be used as guidance when accepting magnetic mailpieces:

1. Magnets (that do not exceed the magnetic field strength limits) may be mailed at First-Class Mail® and Standard Mail machinable or nonmachinable letter or nonletter rates, pending the applicable standards.
2. The maximum size of the magnet is 4 1/4 inches in height and 6 inches in length.
3. The magnetic side must face the reverse (nonaddress) side of the mailpiece, whether prepared card-style or enclosed in an envelope.
4. The magnet must be right-justified (leading edge) on the mailpiece. If the magnet is enclosed in an envelope it must be secured, right-justified, and inside the envelope.
5. Magnets prepared as card-style mailpieces will pay the appropriate letter rates. These card-style mailpieces are often enclosed in some type of plastic material that can make the mailpiece subject to the nonmachinable surcharge.

Mailpieces containing magnets prepared other than within the parameters stated above will require the mailer to contact their rates and classification service center to determine whether testing by Postal Service Engineering is necessary.

*- Mail Preparation and Standards,  
Pricing and Classification, 8-22-02*