

Composition Marking

Any product containing woollen fibre (except carpets, rugs, mats and upholsteries, or articles made more than 20 years before importation) must be clearly marked:

1) to identify the manufacturer or the person marketing the product; 2) with a statement denoting in percentage terms the total fibre content of the product; and 3) with the maximum percentage of the total weight of the product of any nonfibrous loading, filling or adulterating matter. If not suitably marked, an opportunity to mark under U.S. Customs supervision may be granted.

When the fabric contained in any product is imported, it is necessary to state the fabric's country of origin.

Fur products must be marked as to type (particular animal), country of origin and manufacturer's or marketer's name. In addition, where they are used or damaged; bleached, dyed or otherwise artificially coloured; or composed substantially of paws, tails, bellies or waste fur, they must be so marked.

Food Labelling

All imported foods, beverages, drugs, medical devices and cosmetics are subject to inspection by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) at the time of entry into the U.S. The FDA is not authorized to approve or pass upon the legality of specific consignments before they arrive and are offered for entry into the U.S. However, the FDA is always willing to offer comments on proposed labels or answer other enquiries from importers and exporters. Advice on prospective food labels may also be obtained from the Office of United States Relations, Department of External Affairs in Ottawa.

Import Prohibitions and Restrictions

In addition to goods prohibited entry by most countries in the world (such as obscene, immoral or seditious literature, narcotics, counterfeit currency or coins), certain commercial goods are also prohibited or restricted. Moreover, various types of merchandise must conform to laws enforced by government agencies other than the United States Customs Service. Fur products are also subject to the Endangered Species Act and importation of certain fur skins would be prohibited.