EK1200I.COM · CATEGORY DATASHEET

Shipping Scales

A shipping scale is a bench or platform scale used to determine parcel weight for carrier billing, usually 70 lb to 400 lb capacity with 0.1–0.2 lb increments and a USB or serial output that feeds UPS WorldShip, FedEx Ship Manager or USPS Click-N-Ship directly.

Shipping scale selection

Application	Typical capacity	Typical readability	Notes
Letters, poly mailers, small parcels	10–35 lb	0.005–0.01 lb	Desktop postal scale
E-commerce boxes	70–100 lb	0.02–0.05 lb	USB output for WorldShip
Heavy cartons	150–200 lb	0.05–0.1 lb	Large platter
Crates and freight	400 lb+	0.1–0.2 lb	Floor-level platform

Certification and compliance

- Authorized A&D Weighing dealer. Sold as an authorized dealer since 1998, so every unit carries the full manufacturer warranty and factory firmware — not grey-market stock.
- NIST-traceable calibration certificate. Any instrument can ship with a calibration certificate produced in our Cypress, Texas lab using mass standards traceable to NIST, with as-found and as-left values recorded.
- NTEP legal-for-trade options. Models in this category are available with an NTEP Certificate of Conformance evaluated against NIST Handbook 44, ready for sealing by your state weights-and-measures authority.
- ASTM E617 / OIML R111 test weights. Verification weights are supplied in ASTM Class 1–6 or OIML E2–M3 tolerances, sized so the standard's tolerance stays inside one third of the scale's smallest division.
- In-house repair & on-site service. Factory-trained technicians repair, adjust and re-certify weighing equipment in our own Texas workshop and on-site across the Houston metro.

Specification checklist

- Carrier agreement. Verify annually with certified test weights so your manifest weights survive a carrier audit.
- Output type. USB HID for plug-and-play; RS-232 where existing shipping stations are already wired.
- Platter size. Overhanging boxes read low — size the platter to your largest carton.
- Legal for trade. Required if you charge customers by weight rather than simply paying a carrier.
- Hold and tare. Useful for irregular or shifting contents and for reusable outer packaging.

Frequently asked questions

What size shipping scale do I need?

For typical e-commerce parcels a 70 lb x 0.02 lb scale is the standard choice. Move to 150–400 lb only if you regularly ship heavy cartons or crates.

Do shipping scales work with UPS and FedEx software?

Yes — a scale with a USB HID or RS-232 output is recognized by UPS WorldShip, FedEx Ship Manager, ShipStation and most other shipping platforms as a weight input device.

Does a shipping scale need to be legal for trade?

Not to pay a carrier. It does if you bill your own customers by weight, in which case you need an NTEP-certified scale sealed by your state.

Why does my parcel weight differ from the carrier's?

Usually either calibration drift or dimensional weight. Verify your scale against a certified test weight, and remember carriers bill the greater of actual and dimensional weight.

Terminology

ASTM E617	The American standard that defines tolerance classes for mass standards. Class 1 weights are the tightest commonly used for laboratory balances, Class 2 for 0.01 g balances, and Classes 4 and 6 for industrial platform and crane scales.
GLP output	A printout or data record that includes date, time, instrument identification and calibration status, as required by Good Laboratory Practice and comparable quality systems for audit trails.
Legal for trade	A device certified and sealed for use in commercial transactions where weight determines price. In the United States this requires an NTEP Certificate of Conformance and a seal from the state or local weights-and-measures authority.
NIST Handbook 44	The United States specification, tolerance and technical requirement document for commercial weighing and measuring devices. NTEP evaluates devices against it.
NTEP	The National Type Evaluation Program, run by NCWM, which tests weighing devices against NIST Handbook 44 and issues a Certificate of Conformance with an accuracy class. Required for legal-for-trade use.
NTEP accuracy class	The class assigned to a certified device: Class I and II for laboratory, analytical and jewelry work, Class III for retail and general commercial weighing, and Class IIII for coarse industrial use.
OIML R76 / R111	The international recommendations for non-automatic weighing instruments (R76) and for weights of classes E1 to M3 (R111). They are the international counterparts to NIST Handbook 44 and ASTM E617.
RS-232	The serial data interface most weighing instruments use to send weight readings to a printer, PC or dispensing controller. Continuous streaming output is required by closed-loop powder dispensers.

EK1200i.com — authorized A&D Weighing dealer since 1998. Calibration, repair and application support from Cypress, Texas.
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