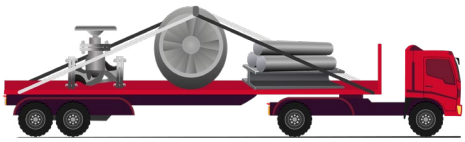
Ground Shipping 101

Understanding Your Transportation Options

Selecting the appropriate mode of transportation can be challenging.
Below is a quick guide to help you make the best decision for your ground shipping needs:

EQUIPMENT TYPE		SERVICE TYPE
Length up to 10 linear ft. Usually less than 5,000 lbs.	**LESS THAN TRUCKLOAD (LTL)**	Great for smaller sized ground shipments. Cost-effective and shorter transit times.
Shipments greater than 5,000 lbs. or that occupy more than 10 linear feet of trailer floor space.	**PARTIAL TRUCKLOAD (PTL) / VOLUME**	Good option for medium-sized loads. Transit times are typically shorter than LTL.
Full trailer up to 53 ft. long. Shipments of 10,000 lbs. to 44,000 lbs. or greater than 30 linear feet of trailer floor space.	**FULL TRUCKLOAD (FTL)**	Full truck dedicated to one or more shipments having the same pickup address, delivery address, and service requirements. Most economical way to transport large or multiple shipments.
Sprinter Van: Length up to 180 inches *or* **Dock-High Straight Truck**: Dedicated, length up to 26 linear feet.	**EXPEDITED / HOTSHOT / DEDICATED**	Fastest and most direct transportation solution for day/time-specific delivery requirements. Solo and team drivers available.
Length up to 53 ft., weight up to 44,000 lbs. Freight with special requirements. **Types:** Flatbed, Step Deck, Drop Deck, Reefer, Conestoga, Lowboy, and more.	**SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT** 	Great for oversize or out of gauge shipping. Permits and vehicle escorts can also be provided. Learn more about specialized equipment.

Special permit(s) required for over-dimensional and over-weight loads.

These are general guidelines to help you, exceptions may exist. Please note that the National Motor Freight Classification (NMFC) can impact what would be considered the most optimal mode of transportation. The route or lane can also impact the optimal mode of transportation due to pricing. We encourage all shippers to palletize freight, when possible, to protect it from damage. BTX Global Logistics is available to answer your questions around the clock. ***Contact BTX for a spot quote.***