

Basic Economy Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

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American Airlines is focused on meeting customers' needs by offering Basic Economy in addition to a wide range of other Main Cabin fares. These low cost fares provide a simple and affordable way to experience American's network.

American offers Basic Economy on many Domestic flights, and plans to offer Basic Economy on select Transatlantic starting in April 2018, including codeshare flights operated by Atlantic Joint Business partners British Airways, Iberia, and Finnair.

Since American's policies surrounding Basic Economy fares are unique in comparison to other types of published fares, please review this document to find answers to the most frequently asked questions.

Domestic refers to:		
Domestic U.S	Puerto Rico	Mexico/Central America
U.S Virgin Islands	Canada	Caribbean

[AAdvantage Accrual](#)

1. Will AAdvantage members earn miles when traveling on Basic Economy fares?

Customers traveling on a Basic Economy fare will earn AAdvantage miles based on the ticketed value.

2. Will elite status members earn bonus mileage on Basic Economy Fares?

Elite members traveling on Basic Economy fares will earn bonus mileage at a rate of 0.5 Elite Qualifying Miles (EQM) per mile flown.

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Baggage Restrictions

3. What is the carry-on allowance for Basic Economy?

On **Domestic flights**, customers may travel with one personal item that fits underneath the seat in front of them:

- Linear dimensions allowed for the personal item are 18 x 14 x 8 inches (45 x 35 x 20 cm)
- Larger carry-on items are not permitted, even if they fit in the overhead bin

Important Information

You can bring 1 item that fits under the seat



(Item dimensions must not exceed 18 x 14 x 8 inches (45 x 35 x 20 cm))

No access to overhead bins



Pay to check bags now
or pay bag fee + \$25 (per bag) at the gate



On **Transatlantic flights**, customers may travel with two pieces of carry-on luggage:

- One personal item that fits underneath the seat with linear dimensions no greater than 18 x 14 x 8 inches (45 x 35 x 20 cm)
- One large carry-on item with linear dimensions no greater than 22 x 14 x 9 inches (56 x 35 x 23 cm)

4. For Domestic Basic Economy customers, how will the boarding gate agent decide if a customers' personal item will fit under the seat in front of them?

Airport boarding gate agents will base their decision on whether a customer's carry-on item fits within the baggage-sizer bins. If the bag fits within the yellow outline it qualifies as a carry-on item. If the bag fits outside the yellow outline it doesn't qualify as a carry-on item.

American

Carry-on or Check?

Basic Economy: 1 item under seat
All others: 1 item under seat + 1 bag in overhead bin

UNDER SEAT

18 x 14 x 8 in.
(45 x 35 x 20 cm)

OVERHEAD

22 x 14 x 9 in.
(56 x 35 x 23 cm)



5. **What happens when a customer ticketed on a Domestic Basic Economy fare arrives at the boarding gate with a personal item larger than the dimensions allowed for the one carry-on bag?**

Customers arriving at the boarding gate with a personal item exceeding the carry-on baggage dimensions will result in the gate agent collecting additional fees (if applicable) prior to customer boarding:

- Checked bag fee
- Gate processing fee

Note: Military customers traveling in uniform or on Military orders and ticketed on a Basic Economy fare exempt from paying the gate processing fee; however, all other baggage fees apply.

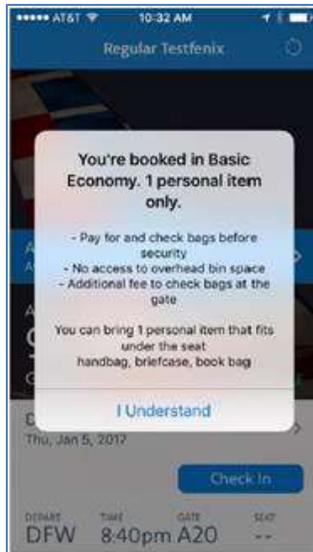
6. **Will the mobile boarding pass provide customers easy identification of traveling on a Basic Economy fare?**

The mobile boarding pass will indicate Group 9 for customers on a Domestic flight or Group 8 on a Transatlantic flight.



7. **Will customers that check-in for a Domestic Basic Economy ticket via the mobile app be notified of the carry-on baggage item restrictions?**

Customers checking-in on the mobile app will receive information on Basic Economy baggage restrictions. They will be asked to confirm "I Understand" before the mobile boarding pass will be issued.



8. Are elite status customers and premium credit card holders subject to the Domestic Basic Economy carry-on baggage restrictions?

Elite status customers and eligible premium credit card holders may travel with one small personal item and one additional carry-on not to exceed 22 x 14 x 9 inches (56 x 35 x 23 cm).

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[Booking and Inhibiting Basic Economy Fares](#)

9. How do you identify Basic Economy fares when pricing American fares?

American's Basic Economy fares are booked in B inventory for short and Transatlantic American prime flights. American codeshare flights operated by BA, IB, or AY may be booked using other booking codes. While the booking codes may differ, the 7th position of the fare basis code will be B across carriers.

10. It was previously communicated that there are two different Basic Economy fare type codes: Economy One-way Unbundled (EOU) or Economy Roundtrip Unbundled (ERU). Is there an inclusive pricing format required?

Basic Economy fares will price with WP, WPNC, WPNCB, etc.. No inclusion is necessary as long as B inventory is available. The fare type code can be found in the Fare Type section of the fare rules:

Example: V FARE BASIS BK FARE--OW FARE--RT TRAVEL-TICKET RTG

2 OUALZNB3 B¥ 35.00 70.00 R24MY 66

PASSENGER TYPE-ADT AUTO PRICE-YES

FROM-MIA TO-TPA CXR-AA TVL-28FEB17 RULE-B11L DFR/11

FARE BASIS-OUALZNB3 SPECIAL FARE DIS-N VENDOR-ATP

FARE TYPE-EOU OW-ECONOMY OW UNBUNDLED

11. What is the pricing format to exclude Basic Economy fares from the price quote?

Sabre: WPNC¥MPC-ANY will price the lowest non-Basic Economy fare

WPNC¥BRMAIN will price the lowest non-Basic Economy fare, using the brand ID 'MAIN'

For information on other GDSs, please contact your GDS Help Desk for assistance with pricing formats.

12. Can Basic Economy fares be inhibited from displaying in Sabre?

Please contact your Sabre Helpdesk for more information on limiting the viewership of Basic Economy fares.

13. Can a travel agency or corporate account elect to inhibit Basic Economy fares from displaying in their online booking tool?

Please contact your booking tool provider for more information on limiting the viewership of Basic Economy fares.

14. Is it possible for a customer to 'upsell' and exchange their ticket to a non-Basic Economy fare?

On **Domestic flights**, customers may not exchange or upgrade a Basic Economy ticket for another fare.

On **Transatlantic flights**, ticket changes are allowed; fees may apply.

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[Other Miscellaneous](#)

15. Will Basic Economy fares be available when booking group travel?

No, Basic Economy fares will not be available when bookings group travel (10 passengers or more).

Please contact American's Group & Meeting Travel desk for more information on group booking procedures.

16. Will customers ticketed on a Basic Economy fare be eligible for any type of upgrade?

No upgrades, regardless of elite status, are allowed when ticketed on a Basic Economy fare.

17. Will customers ticketed on Basic Economy fares be eligible to purchase Same Day Flight Change and/or request flying standby on the same day as travel?

Customers ticketed on Basic Economy fares are not eligible for Same Day Flight Change or Same Day Standby offers, regardless of elite status.

18. When customers traveling on a Basic Economy fare cancel their itinerary prior to flight departure, can they exchange their ticket towards the purchase of another fare for future

travel?

No exchanges or refunds are allowed on a Basic Economy fare.

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[Schedule Change / Schedule Irregularity - IROPS](#)

19. Are schedule change rebooking procedures the same for a Basic Economy fare as for a non-Basic Economy fare?

Schedule change rebooking procedures for Basic Economy fares are more restrictive than other published fares. Please review Agency Reference guidelines for more information.

20. Are you required to rebook B inventory when booking new flights for customers impacted by a schedule change and ticketed on a Basic Economy fare?

Basic Economy schedule change procedures require customers to be re-booked in B inventory only. Please review Agency Reference guidelines for more information.

21. What policies are followed for re-accommodating customers who are traveling on Basic Economy fares and impacted by unplanned event such as Schedule Irregularity/IROPS?

AAAdvantage Status	Inventory	AA Prime Flights	Codeshare Partners	Joint Business Partners	oneworld Carriers	Other Airlines
Elite Members	B or lowest available inventory, same cabin	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Non-Elite Members	B or lowest available inventory, same cabin	Yes	No	Yes	No	No

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[Seats & Boarding](#)

22. Are customers traveling on Basic Economy fares required to pay for a seat?

On **Transatlantic flights**, customers may choose to purchase a seat starting at time of booking or wait to be assigned a complimentary seat at time of check-in or the departure gate.

On **Domestic flights**, customers may choose to purchase a seat starting at 48 hours prior to departure or wait to be assigned a complimentary seat at time of check-in or the departure gate.

23. If a customer chooses not to purchase a seat, will the customer have a choice of seating during check-in via aa.com, airport kiosk, or ticket counter?

Customers who choose not to purchase a seat will be assigned a seat based on availability. When no seats are available for assignment, customers will be placed on the airport priority list and assigned a seat at the boarding gate.

24. What happens if the only remaining seats are designated as Main Cabin Extra or Preferred seats? Will a customer ticketed on a Basic Economy fare be asked to pay for these seats?

Customers ticketed on Basic Economy fares without a seat assignment will be assigned a seat for free, even if the only remaining seats are Main Cabin Extra or Preferred.

25. Will elite status customers traveling on Basic Economy fares receive complimentary access to Main Cabin Extra or Preferred seats, similar to when ticketed on a published fare?

Elite customers ticketed on Basic Economy fares and requesting a Main Cabin Extra or Preferred seat assignment will be required to make a payment for the seat selected.

26. Will elite status customer and/or Premium Credit Card (PCC) members ticketed on Basic Economy fares continue to receive priority boarding similar to when purchasing published fares?

Elite status and eligible Premium Credit Card members will continue to receive priority boarding as a membership benefit when ticketed on Basic Economy fares.

27. Will customers ticketed on Basic Economy fares and selecting a Main Cabin Extra or Preferred seat still receive the benefit of priority boarding?

Customers ticketed on Basic Economy fares who purchase paid seats will not be offered priority boarding.

28. Is it possible for a customer ticketed on a Basic Economy fare without a seat assignment to be accommodated by the boarding gate agent to the premium cabin if no other main cabin seat is available?

Upgrades are not available to customers traveling on Basic Economy fares, regardless of elite status.

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