Changes to Prohibited Items List (PIL)

March 2013
Changes to PIL

TSA continues to evolve and strengthen its multi-layered approach to aviation security – through better technology, expanded data analysis capabilities and an enhanced understanding of current intelligence.

As part of this evolution, TSA established a committee to review the Agency’s Prohibited Items List. After review and based on an overall risk-based security approach, TSA will be making changes to allow small knives, souvenir-sized and toy bats and some sporting equipment on board aircraft.

This decision aligns TSA with International Civil Aviation Organization standards and our European counterparts.

The changes to the Prohibited Items List are effective April 25, 2013.
Knives Allowed

A knife is allowed if:

- The blade is no longer than 2.36 inches or 6 centimeters in length
- The blade width is no more than ½ inch at its widest point
- The knife does not have a locking or fixed blade
- The knife does not have a molded grip
Knives Not Allowed

A knife is prohibited if:

- The blade is longer than 2.36 inches or 6 centimeters in length
- The blade width is more than ½ inch at its widest point
- The knife has a fixed blade or locks firmly when in use
- The knife has a molded grip
Small Knives Guideline

- The blade length is measured as a straight line extending from the tip of the blade to the forward-most aspect of the hilt or handle.
- The blade width is measured from the edge of the blade to the back of the blade at its widest point.
Sharp Objects Not Allowed

Razor blades and box cutters are not allowed
Sports Equipment Allowed

- Lacrosse Sticks
- Pool Sticks/Cues
- Golf Clubs (limited to 2)
- Hockey Sticks
- Ski Poles
Novelty Bats Allowed

- Bats that are more than 24 inches and more than 24 ounces are prohibited in carry-on.
- Bats more than 24 inches in length and less than 24 ounces are permitted in carry-on luggage.