



General Guide for Donations to BIEM's War Relief for Ukraine

Not every item or object that people are willing to donate qualifies as humanitarian aid. And not every item is equally suitable for shipping overseas as part of BIEM's War Relief to Ukraine. The following categories of items both qualify as humanitarian aid and are greatly needed:

New or gently used Clothing—Basic clothing in all sizes from infants to adults is needed. This includes socks, underwear, pants, tee shirts, shirts, skirts, dresses, and hats. (Please note that leisure-time items such as swimsuits are not actually humanitarian aid and are not needed.)

Winter Wear—Any gear to protect against cold weather is particularly appreciated. Such items include winter coats, hats, scarves, sweaters, sweatshirts & pants, gloves, mittens, thermal underwear, ski masks, thick socks, and related items.

Footwear—Quality shoes & boots of all sizes are needed. Please note that such items should be in decent condition with much wear left in them. Worn-out footwear isn't worth shipping. No high-heels or old-style platform shoes. **Practicality** is a key word. (Shoes with laces should be tied together in pairs with the laces. If there are no laces, they should be tied or rubber-banded together in pairs.)

Accessories—We accept belts, suspenders, purses, and backpacks (for kids & adults).

Household items—With so many houses and apartments destroyed, we happily accept good-condition household items such as blankets, comforters, quilts, flat sheets (American fitted sheets do not fit European mattresses), and non-breakable kitchenware. Good quality furniture is also welcomed.

Medical Supplies—This broad category includes good-condition crutches, aluminum walkers, wheelchairs, medical gauze, bandages, and similar medical items that would be broadly useful, especially during this time of war.

Toys—Playthings for children are appreciated, provided they don't require English or batteries or wall outlets (Ukraine uses 220 volts with differently shaped outlets). Suggested items include puzzles, toy cars & trucks, crayons & coloring books, dolls, plush toys. No toy weapons, please.

Tools—Hand tools of all sorts are appreciated.

Church Ministry items—Good, useable tables, chairs, pulpits, lecterns, as well as sports and camping equipment for youth ministries.

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Items NOT needed—Home decorations, books in English, glass or porcelain items that are easily broken, cosmetics, perfumes, liquids, foodstuffs with near expiration dates.

Final Note: This General Guide cannot foresee all possible donations. Unexpected offers that we have happily accepted range from a new hospital bed to thousands of cans of dry milk. If you have a specialty item you think might be useful, please contact us to ask. Thank you!