

Published based on [Postal Machines - What Are The Benefits And Drawbacks Of Leasing For Small Business](#)

# **Postal Machines - What Are The Benefits And Drawbacks Of Leasing For Small Business**

The internet is a gift to entrepreneurs, enabling a growing number of them to launch online businesses. An e-commerce website makes it easy for businesses to sell products while a business website allows businesses to promote their services. Be it an e-commerce store that sells products or an online business that offers services to customers, mails and shipments are handled every day. For an e-commerce store, reputation rides on the swiftness and quality of delivery. If these businesses procure postage meters, also called postage machines, they can save both time and money in this critical job.

Postage meters allow business owners to directly print appropriate postage onto parcels and letters thus saving a trip to the post office to get shipments weighed, stamped and franked. They are equipped with a scale and can compute the precise postage based on weight, destination, and kind of mail. Not only that, these machines also help you monitor the amount expended on postage. Productivity also gets a boost as business owners can give more time to money-making tasks that will grow the business.

#### Advantages of postage meter for a small business

They are a great help to small businesses as they cannot afford a lot of time into non-core business tasks, and may not have extra personnel to make everyday trips to the post office. Some of the key pros of using postage meters are:

- \* Quick and simple stamping: Postage machines offer the ease of printing and paying postage without leaving the office. No long queues at the post office to get consignments weighed and printed. All you need to do is make one trip to drop off the letters or packages or get them picked up from your office.
- \* Simple management of all types of mails: Postage meters can handle all kinds of mails - Parcel Post, Priority, Domestic First-Class, Express, International parcels, International First-Class etc. As it is quite simple to print directly on envelopes, bulk mails can be weighed and stamped quickly.
- \* Cost savings: Postage meters always stamp mails with precise postage unlike the occasional situation at post offices where exact postage is not available all the time or when you weigh the package on a scale and estimate the postage from a look up table. Consignments are weighed on a scale on the meter and postage is calculated accordingly.

#### Disadvantages of a postage meter for a small business

Though postage meters offer lots of pros, you should be aware of certain issues, such as:

- \* Leasing cost: Use of postal meters, charges, and distribution is managed by the country's postal service. They cannot be purchased and have to be taken on lease for specific period. Leasing charges vary from \$20 to \$500 per month depending on the sophistication of the model.
- \* Change in postage charges: The postal service can make changes to the postage rates and this needs to be reflected in the postage meter also. While recent digital meters can be updated electronically, lower cost models require updated manually by the leaser.
- \* Regulations governing repair: The government postal authority restricts troubleshooting and repair of postage meters by anyone other than the certified leaser. This can cause time lags and the business has no other option except going back to the traditional system of using regular postage stamps and mailing at the post office till the machine becomes functional again.

The convenience, reduction in operational expenses, and time savings from the use of postage meters cannot be overshadowed by the challenges. Businesses can gain from the professionalism these machines bring to official mails and shipments. Business owners too can invest more time and money on business development and on new initiatives.

Daljeet Sidhu. Read [Postage meters](#) and [Postage machine](#) blog.

You can also find this article published on [Postal Machines - What Are The Benefits And Drawbacks Of Leasing For Small Business](#), and on the tag pages [ebusiness](#), [ECommerce](#), [postage machine](#), [postage meters](#), [postal machine](#), [postal meter](#), [small business](#).