

Access Magazine Subscription Mail Service: FAQs

We are widening the scope of our Magazine Subscription Service so that customers will be able to use the service to send large letters which fall outside of the current Mailmark size specification.

From 4 January 2021, customers can use the Magazine Subscription Service to post large letters up to 25mm thickness as manual items. The Access 70 Mailmark service, which is the lowest priced option of posting under our Magazine Subscription Service, can continue to be used for large letters up to 10mm thickness.

This FAQ covers the manual item element of the Magazine Subscription Service. To find out more about the Mailmark element please refer to the [Mailmark Magazine Subscription Service FAQ](#).

What are the 2021 prices for the Access 70 Magazine Subscription Mail Service?

Prices will be published in October 2020.

When will the 2022 prices for the Access 70 Magazine Subscription Mail Service be announced?

Prices will be published by December 2020.

Will this new variant of Magazine Subscription service also be subject to VAT?

Yes, VAT will be applied at the standard rate.

Will I need to add a unique Mailmark barcode and an eManifest to use the service?

No, you will just need to upload using Dockethub for this new variant.

What is the delivery aim for the Access 70 Magazine Subscription Mail Service?

The service is a six working day delivery product (Monday to Saturday), and our aim is to deliver on the first working day after handover and acceptance by Royal Mail.

Which mail formats can be posted using the Access 70 Magazine Subscription Mail Service?

Only Large Letters can be posting using the service.

Why doesn't the specification include parcels?

Generally, magazines are Large Letters, and customer can post the occasional parcel format magazine using Access Business Mail. Customers must have a parcels contract for this.

Is there any up-front qualification for the service?

Yes - before posting a magazine using this service you are required to submit the [Magazine Subscription Mail Service application form](#) on behalf of your customer. When you return the completed application to us you must include a sample copy of the magazine so that we can assess whether it meets the following requirements:

- The magazine must contain 30% editorial content. This does not include advertising material or data or any information relating to a product or service such as pricing information or product descriptions, which relate to either the publisher of the magazine, the owner of the magazine or a third party. The front and back covers are not included in calculating editorial content;
- It must be posted at least twice a year.

We will notify you when you can commence posting using the service upon completion of our checks and we are satisfied that the magazine meets the above requirements. Our checks may take up to 10 working days to complete.

Do I need to apply for qualification if I have already used the retail Publishing Mail service?

Yes, as the entry requirements (minimum of 30% editorial) differ from the Publishing Mail specification.

Do I need to apply for qualification if I have already used the Magazine Subscription Mail service?

Yes, as the content varies by title and we need to check it qualifies but not if you have up-front approval to post that title using the Wholesale Magazine Subscription service

What are the system requirements?

As with all our Access services, you must declare Magazine Subscription Mail Service on your docket using the correct service codes

Is there a new label identifier for the service?

In the container label the service will be identified as “Mag Sub”, and the format will be identified as “LGE LETTERS”.

Will we be able to mix magazine titles in the same container?

No - each container you use to hand over mail under this service must only contain mail of the same magazine title.

I am an existing Access customer – will I need to change my Access Letters Contract?

Before you start posting using the new service existing Access customers will need to agree to add Schedule 24: Magazine Subscription Mail Service to their Access Letters Contract. Customers already signed up to Schedule 24 do not need to make any changes

Why is the entry level 2k item when other access services have a minimum of 4k?

This is in keeping with the existing Magazine Subscription Service to cater for their smaller titles, and, unlike other mail streams it is not practical to consolidate posting and this would mean delaying some titles, risking delaying delivery beyond the date it is available on newsstand

Why are you offering price certainty on the service?

This is in keeping with the existing Magazine Subscription Service as publishers typically sell subscriptions for 12 month terms and any unforeseen changes to the cost of postage have a significant impact on the profitability of that subscription. To help publishers have greater confidence in subscriptions we will provide 12 months' notice of any price change affecting this new service