USPS Mailbox Install Standard

Installation

Put a roadside mailbox where a carrier can safely reach inside without leaving the truck. That means positioning it about 41" to 45" off the ground and back about 6" to 8" from the curb. In the absence of a raised curb, contact your local postmaster for guidance.

The Post

The Federal Highway Administration recommends.

- A wooden mailbox support no bigger than 4" x 4"
- A 2"-diameter standard steel or aluminum pipe

Bury your post no more than 24" deep, so it can give way in an accident.

Don't use potentially dangerous supports, such as...

- Heavy metal pipes
- Concrete posts
- Farm equipment, such as milk cans filled with concrete

In areas with lots of snow, we suggest a semi-arch or extended arm-type support. That way, snowplows will be able to sweep under without knocking it down.

Maintenance

Your mailbox takes a serious beating from the weather, especially in the winter. We suggest a routine mailbox check-up every spring.

You might just need to...

- Replace loose hinges on the door
- Repaint rusty or peeling parts
- Remount the post, if it's loose
- Replace missing or faded house numbers

And year-round keep obstructions away from your mailbox. Your carrier may not deliver your mail if there's a car, shrub, snowdrift, or unfriendly dog in front of it.