



A REMINDER ABOUT CARRYING GOODS

Goods must be secure, immobile, and passengers protected from any sharp edges.

Baggage

Simple items, such as cameras, placed on the aircraft cabin floor have caused accidents, incidents and near misses by later moving in flight and interfering with flight controls – or worse, causing the loss of control of the aircraft.

Before take-off or landing, all carry-on baggage must be stowed either in a baggage locker or under a passenger seat “in such a way that it cannot slide forward under crash impact”. It should also be loaded so it won’t be in the way of people getting out of the aircraft in an emergency. (Rule 91.213 *Carry-on baggage*.)

Making sure this happens is the responsibility of the pilot-in-command.

Cargo

Backpacks, camping supplies, skis and briefcases are examples of frequently carried cargo. They should be carried in a cargo rack or bin, or in a cargo or baggage compartment.

It can be carried on a seat but, if so, it needs to be properly held in place by a safety belt or similar, which needs to be sturdy enough to ensure the cargo won’t shift during expected flight conditions and ground conditions, as well as unexpected turbulence. (Rule 91.215 *Carriage of cargo*.)

And to be absolutely sure the cargo doesn’t pose a threat, it has to be packaged and covered to avoid injuring any passengers.

Rule 91.215 makes no provision for cargo to be carried outside an aircraft unless it’s in an approved cargo rack or bin.

That means it’s not legal to strap items to the exterior of the aircraft – for example, to helicopter skids or cross tubes. 

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