

THE LAYMAN'S GUIDE TO TARIFF CLASSIFICATION


WHY IT MATTERS

Getting your product's tariff classification right the first time ensures...

- 1** Your product will be assessed the correct amount of duty each time, thereby minimizing increased duty bills after the fact.
- 2** There will be minimal hassles each time you import your products, which builds consistency with Customs.
- 3** You answer inquiries intelligently, thereby providing a comfort level with government entities.

HOW IT WORKS

HARMONIZED COMMODITY DESCRIPTION & CODING SYSTEM



Otherwise referred to as the **Harmonized Tariff System of the United States (HTSUS) in the U.S.** and the **Harmonized System (HS) in Canada,** this system is used in conjunction with the General Rules of Interpretation to determine tariff classification. This system consists of **99 chapters** and can be used to classify any product.

Before getting started, make sure you have all of the following product information available:

- All the materials incorporated in your product
- Every function of your product
- Your product's intended purpose
- Understand the notes in the HTSUS / HS and how they may apply to your product

NEXT STEPS

So you think you've got it figured out?

Before going any further, contact a **qualified professional** to write to the appropriate Government Customs Agency on your behalf to request a **Binding Ruling**.

Qualified professionals who can help classify your products may include:

- Licensed Customs Brokers
- Customs Attorneys
- Customs Consultants

A **Binding Ruling** is the definitive assessment of what your product should be classified as.



Source: coleintl.com