

## **THE RETAIL SALES TAX ACT**

### **EXEMPTION ON USED FURNITURE**

- The Retail Sales Tax Act allows the following exemptions for used furniture.
  - (1) when sold by one individual to another, in a non-commercial transaction, used furniture is entirely exempted from the tax.
  - (2) when sold in a commercial transaction, used furniture with a selling price of \$100 or less per item, per set, or in respect of the total sale, is exempted from the tax.
- To qualify as "used", the furniture must have been previously owned by a consumer.
- The attached lists of items that are commonly found in a household have been prepared to assist businesses in applying the tax.
  - List "A" - shows examples of household items which are regarded to be furniture for the purpose of this exemption.
  - List "B" - shows examples of household items that are not considered to be furniture, and are taxable when sold commercially, regardless of their price.

#### **List "A"**

THE FOLLOWING ARE EXAMPLES OF ITEMS THAT ARE REGARDED TO BE FURNITURE:

- Beds, cribs, play pens, baby carriages, dressers
- Chairs, tables, cabinets, shelving
- Chesterfields, davenport
- China, dishes, cutlery and jars
- Clocks
- Fireplaces and fireplace accessories
- Household appliances, e.g. fridges, stoves, freezers, microwave ovens, toasters, blenders, can openers, mixers, irons, vacuum cleaners
- Lamps and fixtures
- Office furniture, e.g. desks, chairs, filing cabinets (but not office equipment)
- Paintings, carvings, ornaments
- Pianos and organs
- Pillows, linens and blankets
- Pool tables, ping pong tables, shuffle boards, other games and toys
- Pots and pans

- Rugs, drapery, mirrors
- Stereos, televisions, radios
- Window air conditioners

**List "B"**

THE FOLLOWING ARE EXAMPLES OF ITEMS THAT ARE NOT REGARDED TO BE FURNITURE AND ARE TAXABLE WHEN SOLD IN A COMMERCIAL TRANSACTION:

- Bicycles, tricycles, skate boards, toboggans
- Cameras and projectors
- Camping equipment, e.g. tents, lanterns, coleman stoves
- Guns
- Hand tools, power tools, garden tools
- Jewellery
- Lawn mowers, snow blowers, garden tillers
- Music tapes, records, video tapes, etc. (except when sold together with used audio or visual equipment)
- Musical instruments (except pianos and organs)
- Office equipment, e.g. typewriters, calculators, copiers, etc. (see List "A" for items that are regarded to be furniture)
- Sports equipment, e.g. golf clubs, skis, snow shoes, skates, shoulder pads, knee pads
- Vehicles and snowmobiles

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

This bulletin is intended to serve as a guideline and is not all-inclusive. For the specific wording of the law, please refer to The Retail Sales Tax Act and Regulation. Further information may be obtained from:

**Winnipeg Office**

Manitoba Finance  
Taxation Division  
101 - 401 York Avenue  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0P8  
Telephone (204) 945-5603  
Manitoba Toll Free 1-800-782-0318  
Fax (204) 948-2087  
E-mail: [MBTax@gov.mb.ca](mailto:MBTax@gov.mb.ca)  
Web Site: [www.gov.mb.ca/finance/taxation](http://www.gov.mb.ca/finance/taxation)

**Westman Regional Office**

Manitoba Finance  
Taxation Division  
311, 340 - 9th Street  
Brandon, Manitoba R7A 6C2  
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