

Pull out your current ocean cargo or marine policy and check the box next to each feature you can confirm it includes — anything unchecked is worth a quick conversation with your advisor.

STANDARD

OFTEN LIMITED

IF NEEDED

— Standard: should be included · Often limited: frequently sublimited, excluded, or optional · If needed: depends on your operations

POLICY FEATURE	WHAT TO CONFIRM	PRIORITY
☐ All-Risk Cargo Coverage	Covers physical loss or damage from any external cause, not just named perils.	STANDARD
☐ General Average & Salvage	Pays your share of salvage costs after a ship casualty, and posts the guarantee to release cargo.	STANDARD
☐ Warehouse-to-Warehouse	Covers goods from the origin warehouse to the final destination, including inland legs.	OFTEN LIMITED
☐ War & Strikes	Covers war, terrorism, and strike risks — excluded unless added.	OFTEN LIMITED
☐ Storage Before and After Transit	Covers goods held at ports or warehouses — often limited to a set number of days.	IF NEEDED
☐ Refrigeration Breakdown	Covers spoilage when reefer equipment fails.	IF NEEDED
☐ Carrier Liability Is Not Enough	Ocean carriers' liability is limited by law and packages — cargo insurance fills the gap.	STANDARD

COMMON GAP IN THIS COVERAGE

The most commonly missed gap in this coverage is relying on the carrier. Ocean carriers' liability is limited by law, and after a ship fire every cargo owner may have to contribute to general average before their goods are released — even if their cargo wasn't damaged. Shippers should carry all-risk cargo coverage with general average, add war and strikes coverage, and declare dangerous goods correctly.

IMPORTANT — PLEASE READ

This checklist is a free educational tool from Cory Washington & Co. to help you review your own coverage and have a more informed conversation with a licensed insurance professional. It is general information only — not insurance, legal, or financial advice, and not a recommendation to buy, change, or cancel any policy. The Standard / Often Limited / If Needed labels describe general market patterns for this coverage — not a personalized recommendation or needs analysis for your specific operations. Coverage terms, availability, limits, and requirements vary by policy, carrier, and state, and only the language in your actual policy governs what is and isn't covered. Checking or leaving blank any item above does not indicate that you are adequately insured or under-insured. Using this checklist does not create a client, agency, or fiduciary relationship. Always consult a licensed professional about your specific situation.