



United Flight Change: Rules, Fees & Rebooking Options

Changing a flight can be necessary when travel plans suddenly change. Whether you need to move your departure date, select a different flight, or adjust your itinerary, understanding the united flight change process can help you avoid unnecessary costs and confusion.

United Airlines offers flexible options for many eligible tickets, although restrictions can vary based on the fare type, route, and circumstances of the change. United has eliminated change fees for many Economy and premium-cabin tickets, including eligible flights within the U.S. and certain international itineraries originating in the U.S.

United Airlines Change Flight



What Is a United Flight Change?

A United flight change means modifying an existing reservation rather than canceling the entire trip.

Depending on your ticket, you may be able to change:

- Travel date
- Departure time
- Flight itinerary
- Eligible connecting flights
- Working remotely
- In some cases, your destination or origin

When making a change, the new flight may have a different fare. Even when a separate change fee does not apply, you may need to pay the difference between your original fare and the price of the new flight.



Does United Charge a Flight Change Fee?

One of the biggest advantages for eligible travelers is that United has removed change fees on many standard Economy and premium-cabin tickets.

For example, eligible flights within the United States generally do not have a traditional change fee. United also states that eligible international travel originating in the U.S. can qualify for the no-change-fee policy.

However, travelers should not assume every ticket can be changed for free. Fare restrictions, ticket type, route, and other conditions can affect the final cost.

United Flight Change Fees

One of the most important considerations is whether a change fee applies. United has eliminated change fees for many standard Economy and premium-cabin tickets on flights originating in the United States, subject to applicable exclusions and fare conditions.

However, this does not necessarily mean that changing a flight is always free. A fare difference may apply when the replacement flight costs more.

Travelers should review the final price displayed before confirming the change.

Remember: No change fee does not necessarily mean the new flight will cost the same.

Basic Economy Restrictions

When you change a reservation, United compares the price of your original ticket with the available fare on the replacement flight.

If the new flight costs more, you may need to pay the difference.

For example:

- Original ticket: \$250
- New flight: \$350
- Additional amount: \$75

If the replacement flight is cheaper, the applicable rules for your fare and ticket may determine whether you receive a credit or another form of value.

Checking several alternative flights can therefore be useful before confirming your change.

Basic Economy Restrictions

Basic Economy tickets can have more restrictions than standard fares. Travelers should carefully review the conditions associated with their specific ticket before attempting a change.

Some Basic Economy products may not have the same flexibility as regular Economy fares. United's vacation terms, for example, specifically state that changes or cancellations to a Basic Economy flight can result in forfeiture of the ticket.

Because fare rules can differ, always review the conditions attached to your individual reservation.

How to Change a United Flight Online?

The online process is generally convenient for travelers who already have their reservation information.

Basic steps include:

Access your United reservation.

Locate the trip you want to modify.

Select the available option to change the flight.

Choose a new date or flight.

Review the updated itinerary and price.

Confirm the change if the terms work for you.

Save the updated confirmation details.

Before completing the transaction, carefully check the departure date, time, airport, connection, and total price.

Same-Day Flight Changes

Travelers who need a different flight on the same day may have same-day change or standby options depending on their itinerary and ticket eligibility.

These options can be useful if your plans change shortly before departure. Availability and eligibility may depend on the route, fare, frequent-flyer status, and other conditions.

Because same-day options can be different from standard flight changes, check the specific rules associated with your reservation before making a selection.

Choosing a New Flight

Sometimes passengers do not initiate a change. Instead, the airline may modify the schedule because of operational requirements or other circumstances.

If United makes a significant schedule adjustment, eligible travelers may receive options for dealing with the affected itinerary. The available choices can d

Booking Comparison: Fare Difference Explained

Original Flight	Replacement Flight
Flight #16109 11:00 — From — 16:00 BlueSky	Flight #73678 11:30 — From — 18:30 BlueSky
\$300	\$380
Fare Difference: +\$80	
Payment	

- Higher Fare: Payment for \$80 difference required
- Subject to ticket-change rules

If Replacement Flight is Cheaper

Original	Replacement
Flight #16109 11:00 — From — 16:00 BlueSky	Flight #73678 11:30 — From — 18:30 BlueSky
\$300	\$260
Original	Replacement

Remaining value depends on ticket rules and circumstances (credit vs. refund)