Physical Demands Flight Attendant



SECTION 1- OVERVIEW

The following is a description of the physical demands of the flight attendant position. These demands are not an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, skills, duties, requirements, efforts, or working conditions associated with the flight attendant. While it is intended to reflect the current demands accurately, management reserves the right to revise or require other tasks to be performed when circumstances change, or emergencies arise.

SECTION 2 - GENERAL DESCRIPTION

American Airlines is a commercial airline providing passenger and cargo transportation to 350 destinations in 50 countries. American Airlines serves the travel needs of our customers, both domestically and abroad as we care for people on life's journey. Listening, taking initiative, and making a difference, our flight attendants are champions for an elevated customer experience. They deliver the best service as ambassadors in the skies and are dedicated to caring for the thousands of people who choose to fly with us.

The primary function of American Airlines flight attendants is to ensure the safety of passengers while aboard Company aircraft. In addition, flight attendants provide passengers with hot or cold beverages, serving a variety of meals and food (including tree nuts) in the aircraft cabin during the flight. Flight attendants work in a fast-paced environment; they must be able to handle emergency situations and must be able to deal effectively with all types of personalities.

Flight attendants work in an environment subject to varying climatic conditions, variable positive and negative gravitational loads induced by turbulence, and varying levels of cabin pressurization. In addition, flight attendants are required to stand frequently, during which time stooping, twisting, and pulling and pushing cabin equipment may be necessary.

SECTION 3 – EMERGENCY DEMANDS

- Have sufficient visual and aural capacity to communicate, comprehend and implement written and verbal instructions
- Assist ill or incapacitated passengers and fellow crew members
- Administer first aid if necessary (not permitted to administer medications)
- Evacuate the aircraft in heavy, dense smoke during a cabin fire
- Handle and operate oxygen bottles and fire extinguishers
- Remove and lift emergency cabin windows (weighing up to thirty -four (34) pounds
- Jump down the emergency slide from height of approximately 24.5 feet
- Makes written report of emergency/safety incidents occurring during flight
- Don and seal oxygen mask and smoke hood
- Ability to open aircraft door with a maximum push/pull force of fifty-five (55) pounds
- Evacuate a full aircraft in ninety (90) seconds or less with minimum crew
- Remove from seat and pull/drag disabled or incapacitated passenger to nearest usable exit during an emergency evacuation
- Effectively handle emergency medical situations including closed cardiac compression and mouth-to-mouth resuscitation for up to thirty (30) minutes, usually performed while kneeling in the limited space between aircraft seats and aisles

SECTION 4 – Medication

Federal Regulations prohibit a flight attendant from using any drug that affects their faculties in any way contrary to safety. American Airlines strictly prohibits the use by an employee of a controlled substance (e.g., prescription medication) that affects job performance or poses a hazard to the safety and welfare of the employee or others.





SECTION 5 - FUNC	SECTION 5 – FUNCTIONAL DESCRIPTION- FLIGHT ATTENDANT					
Classification	Sedentary Up to 10 lbs.	Light 11 to 20 lbs.	Medium 21 to 50 lbs.	Heavy 51 to 100 lbs.	Very Heavy >100 lbs.	
Job Performed	⊠ Part of a Team					
Max Weight Handled				60 lbs.		
Employment Hours	13-16 hrs. worked/day					
Aircraft Types	A319/A320	A321	737	777-200ER/300ER	787-8 or 787-9	

SPECIFIC PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS			
N = Never (0%)	O = Occasional (1 – 33%)	F = Frequent (34 – 66%)	C = Constant (67 – 100%)
*Frequency performed per shift:	One Min. – 2:30 Hours	2:31 – 5:30 Hours	5:31 – 8:00 Hours
Frequency performed per smit.	Once - 20 Min / Hour	21-40 Min / Hour	41-60 Min / Hour

SECTION 6 CABIN DOOR: CLOSING/SECURING & C	DPENING			
Task	Frequency		Task Physical Demands	
		that are performed to swing the cabin door different depending attendant to reach,	n is a complex series of space of space of space of space of space of series on the type of aircraft, but supinate/pronate, grasp, e, all while maintaining bases.	, latch/unlatch, and es of sequenced tasks is ut require the flight push/pull, and generate
		upward and pushes	the cabin door, the Fligh downward on the locking lbs. in an upward or dow	g mechanism.Forces
737 777		5 5	pen or closed requires an I push/pulling with the ot	•
	Occasional		Aircraft Specifications	
		Aircraft	Height (in.)	Forces (lbs.)
		A319-A321	32-53	20-34
and the same of th		A321 Door #2	30-48	20.25
		737	39-47	49-55
		777-200ER	33-48	25
a 2		777-300ER	33-48	25
A319-321 787		787-8	29-43	40
		787-9	29-43	40

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Task	Frequency		Task Physical Demands	
Task 737		on the type of aircr where the flight att reach to floor level bar. The mechanisr hooks. The remaini 48-64" and require 2. For remaining aircr		s located at floor level, or kneel in order to force to secure the sides into retention ch designs located at e. the door is
	Occasional		Aircraft Specifications	
		Aircraft	Height (in.)	Forces (lbs.)
		A319-A321	48	12
		737	0	5-10
		777-200ER	64	2-5
		777-300ER	64	2-5
		787-8	60-61	2-5
		787-9	60-61	2-5

SECTION 8 OVERWING EXIT:		
Task	Frequency	Task Physical Demands
Task	Frequency	 Over Wing Exit Operations are limited to the A319-A320, A321E and 737 aircraft. The remaining aircraft use only main cabin doors for both normal and emergency unloading. A319-A320: After the emergency lever is pulled, handles at 25"and 51" are grasped. The door is lifted from the aircraft frame and laid across the seats immediately behind the exit. Emergency Door: 42" x 22" x 4.75" and weighs 34 lbs. A321E and 737: The emergency release (61") is pulled and the emergency exit pivots upward to open automatically.
THE STATE OF THE S		





ECTION 9 OVERHEAD BIN USAGE: Task	Frequency		Task Physica	Il Demands	
Task	Frequency Occasional	pulled down require the f of the passer 2. The flight att takeoff. Max height of 80' the weight of 3. Flight attended.	Task Physical on the type of aircraft or pushed up to close its attendant to purple baggage inside. It the time of the time of the time of the time of the bin or height of the bin or height of the time of time of the time of the time of time of the time of the time of t	t, overhead bin do se. Larger aircraft ish up the loaded erhead bin in prep se of fifty-three (53 required to accon f the flight attenda o correctly orienta	with push up doors bin with the weight aration for B) pounds at a polish the task if ant is an issue.
		side) or turn the bin.	ed end to end (whee	, ,	pperly arrange
		Aircraft	Handle Ht. (in.)	Force (lbs.)	Bin Floor (in.)
		A319-A321	65/78	5-10	66.5
		737	67	5-10	68
		737 (alt config.)	62-70	12-32	64
		777-200ER	72-80	12-32	68
		777-300ER	72-80	12-32	68
		787	64.5-78	12-18	66
		787 (centerline)	71-80	22-32	71





SECTION 10 MISCELLANEOUS TASKS:		
Task	Frequency	Task Physical Demands
Greet customers, assist with locating seats and overhead bin space for carry-on baggage and assist customers with stowing their carry-on items, as needed	Occasional	 May need to assist with locating overhead bin space or assist customers with stowing their carry-on items or with checking their carry-on baggage if too heavy to stow (average weight of most baggage is 18-35 pounds; however, can weigh as much as 50 pounds).
Demonstrates use of safety equipment and emergency procedures prior to take-off	Occasional	 Required to verbalize and demonstrate correct use of seat belts, oxygen masks and life jackets. Educate passengers on emergency exit locations and how to evacuate in case of emergency. Visually check each passenger to ensure they are wearing their seatbelt.
3. Beverage Cart Operations	Frequent	 A full-size beverage cart is 32" x 12" x 40.5". A half cart is 16" x12" x 40.5". A fully loaded full size cart may require 30-60 pounds of push/pull force to maneuver the beverage cart up/down aisle. This includes the controlling force to push/pull the cart on an incline. Beverage cart drawers are 16" x 10.5" x 4.25". Depending on the contents, a drawer can weight 5-32 lbs. and be lifted from 8" to 37".
4. Galley Operations: Food and Beverage Service: May serve hot and/or cold beverages and food. Collects payment for various onboard products such as: alcoholic beverages, meals, duty free sales, etc.	Frequent	 Serves previously prepared meals on pre-set trays (each weighing about 2 pounds) and beverages to passengers and flight deck crew during flight. Uses mobile device to collect electronic payment for various onboard purchase such as alcoholic beverages, meals, duty free sales, etc. Open/close ovens, beverage carts, and storage areas. Countertops are located at approximately 45" in height. Reach from floor level to 80" (second stack bins). Reach horizontal; up to 24" to reach the back of compartments. Manipulate latches, switches, knobs, and controls to secure doors/bins/carts.





SECTION 11 MISCELLANEOUS TASKS- Continued					
Task	Frequency			Task Physical Demands	
5. Access Crew Rest Bunk Areas		1.	while off duty. De	are required to be able to ac epending on the aircraft, the d available space may change	configuration of the
		2.	to climb steps/st	e aircraft, the Flight Attendar tairs in limited space and ma while stooped or kneeling/cra unk areas.	aneuver underaceiling
				Aircraft Specifications	
			Aircraft	Step/Stair Height (in.)	Ceiling Height (in.)
			777-200ER	12-12.5	N/A
	Occasional	,	*Bunk height 8" and	d 48"	
			777-300ER	10	55
			787-8	10.5-18	34
			787-9	10.5-18	34

SECTION 12 – LIFT- BAGGA	AGE			
LIFT	Max Weight	Lifted (1RM): 50	Height To/From: 22"-75"	Description of Object: Baggage
Weight (lbs.)	Frequency*	Repetitions/ Time	Height To/ From	Description of Objects
0-10	Frequent	5-24x per hour	Floor-Overhead	various light items
11 – 20	Frequent	5-24x per hour	Floor-Overhead	onboard wheelchair, baggage
21 – 35	Occasional	1-4x per hour	8"- 80"	Baggage, bins of soda/drinks/food/supplies
36 – 50	Occasional	1-4x per hour	22"- 75"	Baggage
*Frequency perfo	rmed per shift: N = Never (0%)	O = Occasional (1 – 33%)	F = Frequent (34 – 66%)	C = Constant (67 – 100%)

CTION 13 – CARRY-BAGG	AGE			
CARRY	Max Weight	Max Weight Lifted (1RM): 50		Description of Object: Baggage
Weight (lbs.)	Frequency*	Repetitions/ Time	Distance	Description of Objects
0-10	Frequent	5-24x per hour	50'	various light items
11 – 20	Frequent	5-24x per hour	50'	various light items
21 – 35	Frequent	5-24x per hour	50'	Baggage, bins of soda/drinks/food/supplies
36 – 50	Occasional	1-4x per hour	50'	Baggage
*Frequency perfor	med per shift: N = Never (0%)	O = Occasional (1 – 33%)	F = Frequent (34 – 66%)	C = Constant (67 – 100%)



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SECTION 14 – PUSH – BEVE	ECTION 14 – PUSH – BEVERAGE CART					
PUSH	Max Weight	Max Weight Lifted (1RM): 60		Description of Object: Beverage Cart		
Weight (lbs.)	Frequency*	Repetitions/ Time	Distance	Description of Objects		
0-10	Frequent	5-24x per hour	50'	Bins and Doors		
11 – 20	Frequent	5-24x per hour	50'	Beverage Cart		
21 – 35	Frequent	5-24x per hour	50'	Beverage Cart (Half Cart), Overhead Bin		
36 – 50	Frequent	5-24x per hour	50'	Beverage Cart, Overhead Bin		
51 – 75	Occasional	1-4x per hour	12"	Beverage Cart, Overhead Bin (fully loaded)		
*Frequency perfo	rmed per shift: N = Never (0%)	O = Occasional (1 – 33%)	F = Frequent (34 – 66%)	C = Constant (67 – 100%)		

PULL	Max Weight	Lifted (1RM): 60	Distance: 50	Description of Object: Beverage Cart
Weight (lbs.)	Frequency*	Repetitions/ Time	Distance	Description of Objects
0-10	Frequent	5-24x per hour	50'	Bins and Doors
11 – 20	Frequent	5-24x per hour	50'	Beverage Cart
21 – 35	Frequent	5-24x per hour	50'	Beverage Cart (Half Cart
36 – 50	Frequent	5-24x per hour	50'	Beverage Cart
51 – 75	Occasional	1-4x per hour	12"	Beverage Cart
*Frequency perfor	med per shift: N = Never (0%)	O = Occasional (1 – 33%)	F = Frequent (34 – 66%)	C = Constant (67 – 100%)

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SECTION 16 – POSITIONAL DEMANDS:			
Activity	Frequency*		Comments: (Distance, Sustained Time, Examples, etc.)
Sitting	Frequent		during take-off and landing, or during turbulent weather
Standing	Frequent		occurs in conjunction with walking during in- flight duties; stationary standing is usually brief and intermittent
Walking	Frequent		prior to take-off, during ascent, level flight, and descent, and prior to and following landing
Climbing Stairs	Occasional		use of stairway
Climbing Ladders	Never		
Reach Forward	Occasional		when distributing food, beverages
Reach Overhead	Occasional		reaching overhead may occur up to 56 inches numerous times and up to 80 inches numerous times
Balancing	Constant		when walking up and down the aisle, retrieving supplies in the galley area, maneuvering beverage, and meal carts, and assisting in stowage of carry-on baggage
Stooping	Frequent		when serving meals and beverages, and restocking the beverage carts
Kneeling	Occasional		when stocking beverage carts and retrieving supplies from lower storage areas
Crouching	Occasional		when removing items from storage in the galley, retrieving items from beverage carts, cleaning or picking up items from the floor and opening cabinet doors
Crawling	Occasional		Access to crew rest areas with very low ceiling heights.
Object Handling	Constant		when serving beverages and food as determined by the airline, checking or using emergency/cabin equipment, distributing customer service soft goods/amenities, food and alcoholic beverage payment processing, using the Electronic Flight Bag (EFB) device, assisting with luggage, and when demonstrating safety procedures.
Fingering	Occasional		Flight Attendant panel controlling the cabin lighting, air system, waste and water indicators
Feeling	Frequent		
Simple Hand Grasping	Frequent		
Firm Hand Grasping	Occasional		when securing and unsecuring the main cabin doors which weigh between 91 and 126 pounds, but are counterbalanced; the emergency window weighs 34 pounds
Operating Controls	Occasional		
N= Never 0 %	O = Occasional 1-33%	F = Frequent 34-66%	C = Constant 67-100%
*Frequency performed per shift Repetition Based Determination (multiply reps. by #- hrs. worked)	1 – 4 reps./ hr.	5 – 24 reps./ hr.	≥ 25 reps./ hr.





SECTION 17 – SENSORY REQUIREMENTS						
Activity	Frequency*		Comments: (Distance, Sustained Time, Examples, etc.)			
Vision – Far:	Constant		Minimum vision of 20/40, corrected or uncorrected, in the better eye			
Vision – Near:	Constant		To read safety instructions and galley labels			
Depth Perception:	Constant		Observe passengers - the length of the plane			
Color Discrimination:	Frequent		Identify objects quickly for safety purposes or during service			
Field:	Frequent		To identify at-risk situations			
Accommodation:	Occasional		Take-off and landing, lights are dimmed for safety			
Perception – Spatial:	Frequent		Movement through the cabin			
Perception – Form:	Frequent		Identify & replace objects on the aisle cart or galley			
Feeling:	Occasional		Improve handling of luggage, service items and providing assist			
Speaking:	Constant		To customers, fellow employees and other flight crew			
Hearing	Constant		Via telephone to the pilots and to customers over the sound of engines			
N= Never 0 %	O = Occasional 1-33%	F = Frequent 34-66%	C = Constant 67-100%			
*Frequency performed per shift Repetition Based Determination (multiply reps. by #- hrs. worked)	1 – 4 reps./ hr.	5 – 24 reps./ hr.	≥ 25 reps./ hr.			

Exposure To	Frequency*	Comments: (Distance, Sustained Time, Examples, etc.)
Inside Environment:	Constant	Airplane travel. Outside: During travel to and from the airport or outside the aircraft while on the ground
Weather Conditions:	Occasional	To and from airport parking lots and/or hotel
Temperature:	Occasional	HVAC controlled; APU may always not be available
Cold:	Occasional	May get warm/cold in cabin without APU or engines running
Heat:	Occasional	May get warm/cold in cabin without APU or engines running
Wet/ Humidity:	Occasional	When outside the airport.
Biological Agents:	Never	
Human Body Fluids:	Occasional	Emergency situations may occur on the airplane
Chemicals:	Occasional	Household cleaners only in the airplane or passenger toiletries
Hazardous Materials:	Occasional	
Floor Surface:	Constant	Carpet, tile, asphalt, concrete, stone, or granite
Lighting:	Frequent	Lighting set to mirror outside conditions during flight.





SECTION 19 – WORK ENVIRONMENT- Continued						
Vibration:	Occasional		May experience vibration during take-off and landing			
Unprotected Heights:	Never					
Confined / Cluttered:	Frequent					
Moving Equipment:	Frequent		Luggage, carts, and service carts.			
N= Never 0 %	O = Occasional 1-33%	F = Frequent 34-66%	C = Constant 67-100%			
*Frequency performed per shift Repetition Based Determination (multiply reps. by #- hrs. worked)	1 – 4 reps./ hr.	5 – 24 reps./ hr.	≥ 25 reps./ hr.			