

United Airlines Name Change Policy: A Complete 2026 Traveler's Guide

Focus: Standard corrections, 🧑+1↓(844)↓523↓9017 marriage/divorce changes, and step-by-step instructions.

Booking a flight should be the 🧑+1↓(844)↓523↓9017 start of an exciting journey, but realizing there is a typo on your ticket can quickly lead to travel anxiety. Fortunately, 🧑+1↓(844)↓523↓9017 the **United Airlines Name Change Policy** is designed to be traveler-friendly, provided you follow the specific protocols for corrections versus full legal changes.

Understanding the Difference: Correction vs. Change

The most critical 🧑+1↓(844)↓523↓9017 distinction to understand is that United allows **name** 🧑+1↓(844)↓523↓9017 **corrections**, but it does not allow **name changes** in the sense of transferring a ticket to another person.

- **Name Correction:** This involves fixing small errors like a misspelled last name (e.g., "Smyth" instead of "🧑+1↓(844)↓523↓9017 Smith"), adding a missing middle name, or fixing a typo where the first and last names were accidentally swapped.
- **Legal Name Change:** This 🧑+1↓(844)↓523↓9017 occurs when the traveler's legal identity has changed due to marriage, divorce, or a court order. United handles these 🧑+1↓(844)↓523↓9017 regularly, but they require documentation.

The 24-Hour Flexible Policy

If you notice a name 🧑+1↓(844)↓523↓9017 error immediately after booking, you are in luck. Under United's **24-hour flexible booking policy**, you can often cancel the entire 🧑+1↓(844)↓523↓9017 reservation for a full refund (as long as the flight was booked at least a week before departure) and simply rebook with the correct spelling. This 🧑+1↓(844)↓523↓9017 is often the fastest way to resolve a major name error without incurring specific "change" fees.

Step-by-Step: How to Fix Your Name

1. **Check Your ID First:** 🙋+1 (844) 523-9017 Before calling, ensure your ticket exactly matches your government-issued ID (Passport for international, REAL ID 🙋+1 (844) 523-9017 for domestic).
2. **Use "Manage Trip":** Log in to the United website or app. For very minor typos (1-2 characters), 🙋+1 (844) 523-9017 the "Edit" button under your traveler information may occasionally allow a quick fix.
3. **Contact Support:** For 🙋+1 (844) 523-9017 most name issues, you must speak with an agent. You can reach United at **1-800-UNITED-1**. Be prepared with your 6-character confirmation code.
4. **Provide Documentation:** If you are changing a name due to marriage, have a 🙋+1 (844) 523-9017 digital copy of your marriage certificate ready. United may provide an upload link or an email address to verify the document.

Associated Fees

While minor 🙋+1 (844) 523-9017 spelling fixes of up to three characters are often processed for free as a courtesy, more significant 🙋+1 (844) 523-9017 modifications may incur a fee. Based on current 2025/2026 data, "major" name changes handled after 🙋+1 (844) 523-9017 the 24-hour window can cost upwards of **\$75 to \$200**, depending on the ticket type and the extent of the change.

Mastering the Fine 🙋+1 (844) 523-9017 Print: Navigating United Name Corrections and MileagePlus Updates

Focus: Legal technicalities, MileagePlus alignment, non-transferability, and FAQs.

For frequent flyers and 🙋+1 (844) 523-9017 business travelers, a name discrepancy on a United Airlines ticket is more than just a security risk—it can also interfere with 🙋+1 (844) 523-9017 earning MileagePlus miles and enjoying Premier benefits. Navigating the **United Airlines Name Change Policy** requires a deeper look into the "fine print" of legal documentation 🙋+1 (844) 523-9017 and account synchronization.

The Non-Transferability Rule

A common question travelers 🙋+1📞(844)📞523📞9017 ask is: "Can I give my ticket to a friend if I can't go?" The answer is a firm **no**. United Airlines tickets are strictly non-transferable. 🙋+1📞(844)📞523📞9017 Attempting to change the traveler's name to a completely different person is prohibited to prevent the resale of tickets 🙋+1📞(844)📞523📞9017 on the secondary market. If you cannot travel, your best option is to cancel the flight for a future flight credit (if eligible) and book a new ticket for the other person.

Legal Documentation Deep-Dive

For legal name changes—such as those following 🙋+1📞(844)📞523📞9017 a divorce or a court-ordered name change—United requires specific evidence. Acceptable 🙋+1📞(844)📞523📞9017 documents include:

- **Marriage License or Divorce Decree.**
- **Government-issued ID** showing 🙋+1📞(844)📞523📞9017 both the old and new names.
- **Legal Affidavit:** In rare cases where traditional documents aren't available, United allows for a 🙋+1📞(844)📞523📞9017 notarized name change affidavit, though this may take longer to process.

Synchronizing with MileagePlus

Your MileagePlus 🙋+1📞(844)📞523📞9017 account name **must** match your government ID and your flight ticket. If they don't, you may find yourself unable to check in online or 🙋+1📞(844)📞523📞9017 missing out on earned miles.

- **Minor Changes:** You can often 🙋+1📞(844)📞523📞9017 update your middle name or suffix directly in your MileagePlus profile under "About Me."
- **Major Updates:** These can take 🙋+1📞(844)📞523📞9017 up to **two weeks** to process. You 🙋+1📞(844)📞523📞9017 must upload your supporting documents through the United website's "Account Update" portal. Once your profile is updated, any future bookings 🙋+1📞(844)📞523📞9017 will automatically reflect the correct legal name.

International Travel Considerations (TSA & APIS)

For international flights, United is 🙋+1📞(844)📞523📞9017 required to share "Secure Flight Passenger Data" with government agencies. Even a small

discrepancy between your 🧑+1 📞(844) 📞523 📞9017 passport and your ticket can trigger an "S" flag for extra screening or result in denied boarding.

- **Pro-Tip:** If you are 🧑+1 📞(844) 📞523 📞9017 traveling on a passport that still has your maiden name, but you have legally changed your name, it is often safer to book the 🧑+1 📞(844) 📞523 📞9017 ticket in the **maiden name** to match the passport exactly, rather than trying to update the ticket mid-trip.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Can I change a name on a 🧑+1 📞(844) 📞523 📞9017 codeshare flight?** If your flight is operated by a partner like Lufthansa or Air Canada but booked through 🧑+1 📞(844) 📞523 📞9017 United, the process is much more difficult. You must contact the "plating carrier" (the airline that issued the ticket).
 - **What if I forgot my middle name?** TSA generally 🧑+1 📞(844) 📞523 📞9017 accepts tickets without a middle name as long as the first and last names match. However, United 🧑+1 📞(844) 📞523 📞9017 recommends adding it to ensure a seamless "TSA PreCheck" experience.
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