

Services Guide

Moving and Storage

**NOTE 1: This information is pulled from credible sources. This information is a guide. Any information used from this guide must be re-contextualized (no copying and pasting). Re-contextualize information incorporating SEO and business specifics.*

**NOTE 2: For MCP websites, stick to general information and avoid specifics.*

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1. MOVING AND STORAGE OVERVIEW

1.1 GENERAL INFORMATION

- Movers provide varying levels of service, from simple 2 men and a truck to complete packing, transport, and unpacking service.
- Some storage facilities are available only for moving clients, while others are operated as a public storage facility.

1.2 SEO

KEYWORDS (FIRST ROW - BEST, LAST ROW - LEAST)			
• Moving Companies	• Movers	• Storage	• Your Move
• Removal	• Moving Out	• Long Distance Movers	• Movers and Packers
• Move In	• Moving Helper	• Moving Blankets	• Homemove
• Packing	• Piano Movers	• Moving Supplies	• Office Moving
• Moving Boxes	• Boxes for Moving	• Moving Checklist	• Moving Quotes
• Office Relocation	• Moving Man	• Removal Services	• Moving a House

2. MOVING

2.1 SERVICES/PRODUCTS

<https://www.ellismoving.com/>

Service/Product	Description
Packing Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Great for those who don't have time to pack themselves, or those who want their treasured possessions to be packed by pros
Packing Materials	Sales/supply of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Boxes○ Paper○ Stretch wrap○ Bubble wrap○ Furniture covers○ Glass and fragile materials protection

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Moving blankets○ Box cutters○ Markers○ Foam peanuts (packing peanuts)
Local Moves	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Local moves can be just across the street or from one town to another (eg. from Burnaby to Surrey)
Long-Distance Moves	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Long-distance moves are generally more than 150 miles, and can be across provinces. Belongings need to be packed and padded securely for long journeys.
Cross-Border Moves	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ A cross-border move between Canada and the United States requires special expertise, given the regulatory environment in today's security conscious world. There are new rules for both carriers and individuals, so ensure your mover is experienced and knowledgeable about cross-border moves.
Piano Moving	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ If you own a piano, it is not only an expensive asset, but it also has many family memories attached to it. The thought of having to move it is always a cause for concern. Will it get chipped? Will the leg come off? Will it get out of tune? Will it be damaged by moisture during storage and moving?○ The sheer weight and generally awkward shape of a piano can make it difficult to manipulate in and out of a residence.○ While you may be tempted to try moving a piano on your own, generally it is better to have qualified professionals take care of the job for you.○ If a piano move is not expertly handled, the damage may result in not only hundreds of dollars' worth of repairs, but also injury to yourself and others.○ Organ moving may also be offered
Commercial Moves	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Safe handling of sensitive documents○ In many cases, the moving company assigns a single point of contact agent to handle a commercial move, making things simpler for the business.
Junk Removal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Many moving services offer junk removal available with their moving services. Some may offer it on its own as well.

2.2 PROCESS

<http://www.moving.com/tips/the-moving-checklist-a-timeline-for-your-upcoming-move/>

Step	Description
8 Weeks before Moving	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Book your mover as far in advance as possible. Make sure you will be available to let the movers into your house. You don't want to have to pay them to wait around for you on moving day.○ Go through each room of your house and decide what you want to keep and get rid of.
7 Weeks before Moving	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Gather boxes and packing supplies like tape, bubble wrap and permanent markers. Plan a garage sale: As you go through your possessions, you'll find things you don't want to move. It's a perfect time to lighten your load. In the process, you'll make a few bucks at the garage sale to spend on moving expenses.
6 Weeks before Moving	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Notify schools: If you have kids, tell the staff at their schools of the impending move. Get copies of their school records and check into the enrollment process at the schools near your new residence.○ Medical records: Check with your doctor to get copies of your family's medical records.
4 Weeks before Moving	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Notify your landlord (if needed)○ Use any perishables, like frozen foods and produce.○ Arrange for the post office to forward your mail to your new address for a few months.○ Change your address with your doctor and dentist, school, work, bank, insurance companies, credit card company, magazine subscriptions and utility companies.
2 Weeks before Moving	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Have a garage sale to get rid of any unwanted items.○ Donate anything that is left to a local charity. (Your moving company can provide junk removal services for items that you don't want.)
1 Week before Moving	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ If you're taking your freezer with you, make sure you empty, clean and defrost it at least 24 hours before the move.○ One last time, confirm the moving company's arrival

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	time.
Moving Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Keep important documents handy○ Identify fragile items for your mover○ Check every room and closet to make sure nothing is left behind.○ Pay the mover. Feel free to tip if you received great service.○ Clean your new home.○ Make sure everything is in working condition including appliances.

2.3 MOVING PREP AND PACKING TIPS

<http://www.moving.com/tips/the-moving-checklist-a-timeline-for-your-upcoming-move/>

- Book a rental truck as soon as possible
- If you are not a do-it-yourself mover, ask us for the names of qualified movers
- Start packing at least two weeks before your move date
- Wrap dishes and glasses individually in packing paper, foam or bubble wrap
- Do not pack fragile and heavy items in the same box
- Ask at the liquor and grocery store (make sure no food residue though) for free boxes
- Remember to use your laundry baskets & recycle bins and large buckets for tools
- List contents on each box and what room it came from
- Use mattress and sofa bags to keep items clean during the move
- Put bulky light items in larger boxes
- Pack smaller boxes with heavier items such as books and dishes
- Use fluorescent stickers or mark “fragile” on boxes
- Ensure dresser drawers are strapped or stretch-wrapped shut (glass doors on furniture too)
- Use wardrobe boxes to pack clothes directly from the closet(s), shoes/hats/handbags in bottom
- To save time, stretch wrap drawers with contents still in them
- Use stretch-wrap on glass doors (not tape – avoid glue residue)
- Move blankets & pillows in emptied dresser drawers

2.4 ASSEMBLY/DISASSEMBLY

General Information:

- Not only will movers transport your belongings from your old home (or storage facility) to your new home, they can also help you set up the large items where they are supposed to go.
- Set up the bed where you want it in the bedroom, arrange your couch in the living room, set up chests of drawers, wardrobes, etc.
- Disassembly, assembly and installation of furniture
 - In order to get items through narrow staircases and doorways, some larger items might need to be taken apart – legs taken off tables, bed frames disassembled.
 - Sometimes, items from box stores like IKEA might come in separate pieces. We can set these up for you.

2.5 HOME STAGING

General Information:

- Home staging means preparing a house for resale. It involves furnishing your home and setting up the space to make it more attractive to buyers.
- Sometimes this means setting up a lived-in house, sometimes it means putting furniture in a vacant property.

Benefits of Home Staging:

Benefits
• Sell your home more quickly
• Drive up the price of your home
• Experience in setting up rooms and homes in a way that’s attractive to buyers. We know what buyers are looking for.
• We do the heavy lifting – moving couches, dressers, shelves, etc. We can set up your home quickly and efficiently. Much easier than DIY.
• Some staging companies have their own furniture that they can bring in for staging a home for sale. This furniture is perfect for home staging.

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Home Staging Process:

<http://mcdadi.com/home-staging/>

Step	Description
1. Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Your staging experience begins with a full assessment of your property and the evaluation of your home's market appeal.Your stager will discuss flooring, walls, ceiling, windows, furniture arrangement, focal points, and anything that needs to be pre-packed, rearranged, repaired or replaced.
2. Moving	<ul style="list-style-type: none">We rearrange furniture, move in new items.Furniture, lighting, art and accessories may be provided.This part is the heavy lifting.A combination of artful design and heavy lifting.
3. Final Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Take photos for listings.Make sure everything is clean, lighting is perfect.

2.6 EQUIPMENT

<http://mcdadi.com/home-staging/>

<http://www.wiebesmoving.com/moving.html>

<https://www.homedepot.ca/en/home/p.oxo-stretch-wrap---20-inches-x-1000-feet.1000670337.html>

General Information:

- Part of the reason why professional movers are able to complete your move safely and quickly is that they have special equipment

Equipment	Description
Dollies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Wheeled cart used to lift and wheel heavy or awkward-to-carry items2-wheeled dolly used to lever and tilt heavy items4-wheeled dolly like a little platform with wheels

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Moving Blankets	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Large, padded quilts that can be wrapped around items to prevent them from getting damaged.• Guards valuable and treasured items from scratches, nicks, dings, etc.
Floor Runners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The ideal layer of protection for floors during a move. Not only do they protect carpet, tile, laminate, hardwood, linoleum and other flooring from scratches and dings, they create a flat, non-slip surface.
Tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For disassembling and reassembling furniture
Shrink wrap	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use stretch films to wrap and protect furniture, keep doors and drawers closed and bundle odd shaped tools and sports equipment. The elasticity of the stretched film keeps items secure and tightly packed.
Truck	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Save the hassle of trying to rent a truck or trying to find a friend with a van. A mover has the large truck needed to carry all of your possessions in one load.

3. STORAGE

3.1 TYPES OF STORAGE

http://www.ustorage.com/articles/different_types_of_storage_facilities.html

<https://findlocalstorage.com/storage-tips/types-of-storage/>

Main Types of Storage:

Type	Description
Moving Company Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Generally the most expensive, but safest and easiest option○ Moving companies usually store in their own facilities that are either climate- or temperature-controlled and have security systems○ You will probably need an appointment to add and take items out of your unit○ Sometimes, you might be moving out of your old home

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	<p>a month or two before moving into your new home.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Movers can move furniture out of your old home into storage unit, then out of storage unit into new home.
Self-Storage Units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Generally have different sizes and variable options like climate/temperature control ○ You must pack, move and store all the items yourself ○ Many self-storage facilities allow renters to visit their units whenever they like without an appointment
Mobile Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A wooden or steel container is delivered to you for loading and is then transported to a storage facility ○ When the unit is taken away, you can only access it if you contract the company for redelivery ○ The unit can be moved with you if there is a similar facility at your new destination

Specific Types of Storage:

Service/Product	Description
Commercial Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For storing equipment, machinery, excess merchandise, tools, files ○ Emphasis on security and confidentiality – storing potentially sensitive financial documents and employee information
Residential Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For those in condos, decluttering the home, staging your home to sell, moving, storing vehicles or RVs
Outdoor Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Typically the cheaper option ○ Items stored must not be susceptible to heat or cold
Climate-Controlled	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Often in a warehouse ○ Typically accessible from inside the facility, but some storage companies offer outdoor climate-controlled storage ○ This option is better for paintings, photos, and other items that may be damaged by heat or cold
Drive-Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Very convenient option as it allows you to drive right up to your unit for unloading
Vehicle Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For boats, cars, trucks, RVs

3.2 STORAGE TIPS

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- Lawn mowers – be sure to empty gas and oil from all small machines
- No paint storage, solvents, gases, propane tanks or other combustibles / explosives
- No food allowed in storage (boxed or bagged items – flour, sugar, pasta, cereal)
- Put mattresses, sofas, and chairs in storage bags
- Place skids on locker floor to protect furniture & boxes, allows airflow. (cardboard under cars)
- Remove legs from tables (screws in Ziploc bag and stretch wrap to table along with legs)
- Leave doors on refrigerators slightly ajar (open) to avoid mildew and moisture damage
- Drop by the facility to ensure that you have an adequately sized storage space
- Pack all heavy boxes on the bottom with lighter more fragile items on top
- In order to save some space/time and money, sell or donate unwanted items
- Leave a walkway into the storage space, in order to access items in the rear of your unit
- Remember to pack items you will need at the front of the locker
- Fill all boxes to capacity to avoid tipping and collapsing
- Pack pictures, mirrors and books on their end, never flat.
- Store sofa(s) on end if possible to save space – use sofa & chair storage covers
- Cover items to protect against dust
- Use an adequate sized lock on the unit – see our office for the correct sized lock