

# GARAGE SALES

## How to Hire Movers

Planning a garage sale as part of a move to a new home is a great way to both get rid of clutter and make some spending money for little things that come up during those hectic days of shifting to a new address. Here's how to get a little extra help during your move and make it as painless as possible.

### WHY HIRE MOVERS

DIY moving has one big pro going for it: It's cheap. However, professional movers can save you a ton of time and stress. A professional crew can clear out a home in just a few hours and with zero or no emergency room visits. Furthermore, if you're moving for a new job, your employer might cover some or all of the costs for you, making it well worth your time to explore hiring professionals.

- Ask friends and family,



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then choose three companies to get quotes from. Check reviews and references and ask plenty of questions as you go through the quote process. Some suggested questions from Moving.com include:

- How long has the company been in business?

- Have any complaints been filed against the company?

- What measures were taken to resolve any complaints?

- Do they have references?

- Are they properly licensed in your state or the state you're moving to?

- What kind of liability

coverage does your company provide?

- Can you purchase more insurance?

To get an accurate estimate, most moving companies will pay a visit to your home. Once there, they'll look at the items you want moved —

make sure and sort out any garage sale items beforehand — and ask if the quote is binding or if you can get a not-to-exceed estimate. Also ask about forms of payment, how long the move will take and how you should file a claim for damaged or broken items.

### BEFORE MOVING DAY

Make an inventory of the items you're going to move and be honest with the moving company's estimator about what you're going to bring with you. Ask how you should mark items that aren't moving to make sure they don't end up on the truck. Clearly mark each box or item in the way you were instructed. If you can, hold your garage sale before the movers come to make sure everything is cleared out of the way so the crew can get your items loaded and on the truck as quickly as possible.

Most moving estimates are based on the weight of your household belongings, the distance to the destination, labor and packing costs, insurance and the moving date and season. You may incur extra fees for steps to negotiate or narrow streets. Storage may also cost extra, as will moving specialty items such as pool tables and pianos.

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### SELLER'S TIP

#### Advertise Your Moving Sale

If you're holding a moving sale, include that information in your garage sale ad. That tells buyers that you may have more than the average clearing-out-the-clutter garage sale. Be ready to make deals and move items out of your space, particularly if the movers have already come and taken everything else away.

## AD SPACE