

Ways To Find A Good Mover

Retaining the services of a high-quality mover requires some research on the part of the consumer, but the reward is great -- a high-quality move with less stress. Here are 7 ways to spot a mover you can trust:

1. Choose a mover with **local representation**. Work with a company that is locally based or has a local agent, and only use a mover that does an "in-home" visual survey of the items you want to move. Avoid booking your move with an Internet based moving broker. Most of them hand your move over to a different company -- a company you know nothing about.
2. Make sure your mover is **licensed**. If you are moving within the state, check with the appropriate state authorities -- check this article to see who regulates your move in your state. If you are moving to another state, make sure the mover is licensed by the Federal Department of Transportation -- this article explains what you should look for.
3. Check with the Better Business Bureau regarding **numerous unresolved complaints** about a mover. A responsible mover may have a few complaints lodged against them -- the more moves a company handles and the larger the population in their market area, the more likely it is it will have at least a few complaints. However, its record with the Better Business Bureau should show that they have a satisfactory rating and that they respond to and resolve complaints.
4. Be sure the mover carries **proper insurance**. Ask your potential mover if they carry Workers' Compensation Insurance. If you have doubts, ask to see proof of insurance in the form of an "Insurance Certificate" issued by the insurance carrier. Without Workers Compensation Insurance you could be liable for anyone who gets hurt on your premises. Workers' Compensation Insurance substantially adds to the mover's cost of doing business, but it protects you if someone is injured during your move.
5. Make sure the mover's place of business **actually exists**. It is important you know where to find the company after the move if you have a problem. Again, if you only choose a mover with local representation, this will not be a concern; the locally based mover has its reputation at stake. Also, you may want to check out the facility. Taking a good look at their facility may tell you quite a bit about the quality of service you can expect to receive.
6. Get a **recommendation**. A satisfied customer is the best sales pitch any company can ask for. Ask what local companies the mover does business with on a regular basis. You can ask for references, but they are not all that dependable. After all, what company is going to give you the name and contact information of an unhappy customer?
7. Check the **mover's credentials**. Is the moving company a member of an industry trade association, such as the American Moving & Storage Association? Are their salespeople Certified Moving Consultants? Are their moving crews certified? A reputable company will usually be involved in one or more of these types of moving industry groups and have some type of structured training program for their staff.