



The Ups And Downs Of Elevator Moves

Only a moving specialist can achieve the desired efficiency and safety on an elevator move. Follow these tips and strategies from the experts.

>You can expect to pay more when long hallways must be transversed to get to the service elevator. You can minimize charges of this kind by selecting a company that has the proper equipment. You should not use any company that carries only one or two four-wheel dollies. If you do, you will find yourself paying for two men to carry a dresser down a long hall when one man could have easily handled it using a dolly. The more dollies available, the quicker your job will be finished. **Beltway Movers carries eight dollies on every van.**

>Inquire as to whether or not your mover has large commercial canvas hampers similar to those used in laundries and department stores. Without them, your movers will be making countless trips to and from the elevator with small items that could have easily been handled in one hamper basket. **Beltway Movers will supply up to four hampers free of charge on moving day when requested in advance.**

>Without professional planning and procedures, it is possible that your belongings may be left unattended at several points in the elevator process. This increases the likelihood of a problem occurring. **Beltway recommends using at least a three-man team on most elevator moves**—one upstairs, one at the elevator and one near the van. When possible, pitch in yourself to watch your belongings. If you want to be of assistance—you can be the elevator operator. This will free one of the professional movers to do more of the actual handling of furniture.

>Finally, a common concern of customers is time accountability. It takes as much as 10-15 minutes from the arrival of the movers at your building until you actually see them. This is due in large part to the time necessary for parking the van, unloading equipment and securing the elevator. In addition, when you see your apartment finally emptied, be aware that all your furniture may not have arrived at the van and that men may still be working to complete the loading of the van. **Don't despair Beltway has a solution to guard against wasted time.** Instead, use this time to look for forgotten items and to carry last minute things such as potted plants to your car. Then make sure that the loading dock is clear, that everything is on the van, that the new address has been verified with your move crew and that the elevator key has been returned to the building management.

Most elevator buildings have specific guidelines regarding move day procedures.



These rules insure your safety, reduce tenant conflicts and help with building maintenance. It is your responsibility and it is definitely to your advantage to secure a list of the move day procedures beforehand. The following information discusses common restrictions you may encounter.

TIME AVAILABILITY:

There may be limited days and/or hours which will be made available to your mover. Schedule your move in close cooperation with those times.

ELEVATOR RESTRICTIONS:

Get assurance from the building management that you can have exclusive use of service elevators. Possession of the elevator key will help prevent you from paying your move crew to stand in line waiting for elevator service.

ELEVATOR SIZE AND CONDITION:

Most modern buildings have service elevators, which are well padded. If your building has only tenant elevators, be sure and mention this to your move consultant. Special arrangements will have to be made for large pieces of furniture.

PARKING:

Reservations may need to be made which will allow the van to park at the loading dock. Unfortunately, most companies will have to charge you even if they are forced to wait for other delivery people and companies to clear the loading area.

HALLWAYS:

Some exclusive buildings require Masonite floor runners or similar protection on all hallways from the loading dock to your front door. Be sure to discuss this and any other hallway regulations with your move consultant.

STORAGE ROOMS:

Building engineers usually prefer that you make arrangements in advance for items to be removed from storage lockers and will then coordinate this effort on move day.

We are pleased to have the opportunity to provide you with information, which we know, will prove helpful as you plan your move. The more you understand about the move process the less stressful it will be for you.

Need More Help?
Ask to speak to a move consultant.
Virginia, call 703-971-3550
Maryland, call 301-340-2310