

We're happy to answer your questions or help you determine if a mover is properly licensed. Feel free to contact us:



Illinois Movers' and Warehousemen's Association

40 Adloff Lane, Suite 2 Springfield, IL 62703-6301 Phone: 888-791-2516 or 217-585-2470 Fax: 217-585-2472

E-mail: imawa@imawa.com Website: www.imawa.com

Patricia Smith McLaughlin Executive Director

To check licensing and complaint history of movers operating in Illinois you may also contact

Illinois Commerce Commission

527 E. Capitol Avenue Springfield, IL 62794-9281 217-782-4654

Website: www.icc.illinois.gov

MOVING?

Things you need to know before you will be compared to know be compared to know be compared to know the compared t

Frequently asked questions ...

- ⇒ When is the best time to move?
- ⇒ Should I hire a professional moving company or try p do it myself?
- What put the best buy from the board?

 How do I get ready for all this?????

 Even one has a theory about moving day,

but one thing is certain: moving can be a stressful, inconvenient activity. These guidelines are intended to help take stress and confusion out of your move.

Please contact us if we can answer any questions or provide assistance (see contact information on back panel). *And have a good move!!*

k tips for a smooth move ...

At least a month ahead, set up a calendar for your move.

BEFORE your move din la din s, st offi, e ha di bu' moving.

O DT 13 b furniture before the A pad or blanket can leave marks that may not come out later.

- If you're doing your own packing, be careful about overloading the cartons. (Can YOU lift them easily?) Be sure to use appropriate <u>cartons</u> so your goods will arrive safely. Carton tops should be flat for easier loading and stacking on the truck. (Garbage bags are not appropriate to protect your possessions.)
- Use smaller cartons for books and other heavy articles, larger cartons for bulky but lightweight articles (such as linens).

- Be sure fragile articles are not packed along with heavy articles, and be sure to mark all cartons clearly.
- Remember it's "first in, last out" when loading any truck. Keep toiletries, medicines, and other necessities with you in the car on moving day.
- Carry your valuables (jewelry, furs, money, etc.) and important papers with you. Do not pack them on the moving truck.
- Ask your mover for more ideas on preparing for your move.
- Visit the Association on the Internet for more tips on choosing your moving and storage service: www.imawa.com

CONSUMER

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Illinois Movers' and Warehousemen's Association www.imawa.com

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WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO MOVE?

- Studies have shown that moving during the summer, after school's out, may NOT be the best time for your children. Adjustment is easier when they're in school, because classmates quickly become new friends. Sometimes new neighborhoods can be lonely places until the "kids on the block" are discovered.
- The first of the month and the last of the month are busiest for both professional moving companies and truck rental companies. If possible, schedule your move to avoid these peak periods; and be sure to allow at least 30 days advance notice.



WHY SHOULD I HIRE A PROFESSIONAL MOVER?

Anyone performing moving service for hire in Illinois is *regulated* by the Illinois Comm Commission. Movers must be licensed insured, and their lates are established according to law.

| Anyone performing moving service for hire in Illinois Commission. Illinois Commission. Illinois Commission. Illinois is regulated by the Illinois Commission is regulated by the Illino

Pr ess movers use *quality equipment*, and they know the proper way to load their truck. **Your goods will be transported safely.**

Professional movers are **trained and experienced** in protecting your power in the proper way to provide the provide

the do or goulet the wallpaper. If an accident do to the second against loss or broken or lost, the mover is reasonable to you.

choose for such prote

Professional movers are safety conscious. If one of their crew is hurt on the job, they are covered by workers' compensation insurance.

The price is reasonable. When you consider all the den costs of doing it yourself, the price isn't h different whether you use a professional er or "do it yourself."

r friends and relatives will thank you, because won't have to help!'

"DO-IT-YOURSELF?" WHO REALLY PAYS?

BEFORE you make the decision to "do it yourself," consider these things. You might be surprised!

- How much does it really cost to rent a truck (including rental, mileage, extra equipment such as pads, dollies, etc.)?
- If you are borrowing a pick-up truck, how many trips will it take to get the job done?
- Do you know how to load the truck so your goods won't shift enroute and get broken? What can yo stack, and what should you NOT stack while loading?
- WHAT IF SOMEONE GETS HURT? Your neighbor may be your best friend in the world, but if he is hurt or permanently disabled because of an accident on your moving day, who do you think will pay??
- If your TV gets dropped, who pays for a new TV?

 What if the rental truck breaks down enroute? You'll have to unload everything and load it on a new truck.

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- Will your new home have obstacles on moving day (elevators, stairs, restricted access, etc.)?
- Do your friends and relatives REALLY want to help you???? (And have you priced carry-out chicken and beverages lately???)

ink. out on o dour pole with nearly of the se number and references and complaint history first!

Unscrupulous unlicensed "bandits" out there may offer to do a move for you at a price that seems too good to pass up — but the price usually ends up being no bargain at all.

Free-lance (unlicensed) "bandits" frequently post notices on Craig's List, bulletin boards at grocery stores or truck rental agencies, advertise in newspapers and "Penny Shopper" type papers, or even put flyers on the windshield of your car at the mall. Don't believe everything you see on the Internet or in the Yellow Pages, either. CHECK THEM OUT!! Ask to see their license and then check their complaint history at the regulatory agency (we can help). Get everything in writing. Be sure they have a legitimate address.

Before you choose "the cheap guy" just because it's "such a good deal." consider what you could be in for ...



- Do not hire a mover over the Internet, even (and especially) if it's a cheap quote!

 Bandits have a field day that way. Require the mover to come to your home, provide a written estimate, and check reliable references thoroughly.
- It is illegal in Illinois to perform moves for hire without a license from the Illinois Commerce Commission. For moves crossing state lines, a federal license is required. If a "bandit" is going to operate illegally to begin with, what makes you think he'll be ethical in dealing with you??
- Regardless of what they tell you, "bandits" are not insured. If your belongings are lost, broken, or stolen, you're out of luck! If property (yours or someone else's) is damaged during the move, you may be held responsible.
- "Bandits" do not carry workers' compensation insurance. If their crew gets hurt, you may be liable.
- "Bandits" typically are here today and gone tomorrow. If problems develop, the "bandit" can disappear without a trace — maybe even with your property — and you're left holding the bag.
- You are at the mercy of a "bandit" if he decides to steal your property or to hold your goods hostage for more money than he promised it would cost.

Remember: legitimate business people have legitimate expenses to consider when they establish their prices. If you've compared prices and one is really, *really* low, be very careful. What will you be sacrificing for such a low, low price?

Don't try to be too cheap about this. It could cost you everything!

Visit www.imawa.com or contact us for more

