

Before You Pay a Mover: 7 Quote Checks

KEEP THIS WITH YOUR ESTIMATE

Educational guide - not legal advice

A one-page pre-deposit checklist for U.S. interstate moves

RUN THESE SEVEN CHECKS

1

Verify the company and its role

Search the legal name or U.S. DOT number in FMCSA's database. Confirm whether it is shown as a carrier or broker and whether the interstate authority is active.

2

Require a complete written estimate

A verbal price or rate quote is not enough. Keep a dated copy showing the shipment, services, charges, and signatures.

3

Match the inventory to your home

Check every room, furniture item, box count, fragile item, and bulky piece. Ask how additions or removals change the price.

4

Identify the stated estimate type

Locate the binding or non-binding language. Ask the company to explain, in writing, what controls the final total.

5

List every conditional charge

Confirm packing, stairs, elevators, long carries, shuttles, storage, waiting time, delivery access, and valuation charges.

6

Map the deposit and payment schedule

Write down the deposit, pickup payment, delivery balance, accepted methods, cancellation terms, and refund timing.

7

Put every change in writing before loading

Never sign blank or incomplete documents. If the estimate changes, review and sign the complete revision before the mover begins loading.

MAKE THE QUOTE COMPARABLE

Copy these numbers

Estimate total: _____
 Deposit: _____
 Due at pickup: _____
 Due at delivery: _____
 Estimated weight / volume: _____
 Pickup window: _____
 Delivery window: _____

Slow down if you see this

- No written estimate
- A large cash-only deposit
- Blank or mostly incomplete forms
- No local address or registration details
- A price that will be set only after loading

Official checks

Registered mover search
[fmcsa.dot.gov/protect-your-move/search-mover](https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/protect-your-move/search-mover)

Consumer guidance
[fmcsa.dot.gov/protect-your-move](https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/protect-your-move)

Moving fraud help
 1-888-DOT-SAFT (1-888-368-7238)

A low price alone is not proof of fraud.
 Unanswered questions and incomplete documents are reasons to pause before paying.

Have a Good Move

Independent human estimate review

Al Sciubba | 609-502-1177 | Terrapin1991@gmail.com

QUESTIONS I STILL NEED ANSWERED
