

How Much Does It Cost To Move Your Household Goods To Mexico?

Updated
for 2026



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By Chuck Bolotin, Founder and CEO of Best Mexico Movers. Reviewed and updated: August 2026

What You Will Learn in this Guide

- what determines the cost of moving household goods to Mexico;
- how cubic feet and weight affect pricing;
- why smaller shipments cost more per cubic foot;
- typical packing and loading costs;
- insurance costs;
- transportation and customs costs;
- unloading costs in Mexico;
- six route-specific price examples;
- what to ask when comparing movers;
- how to build a preliminary moving budget.



Who This Guide is For

This guide was created for people considering legally moving / importing their used household goods from the United States or Canada to Mexico. Pricing examples use U.S. origins because approximately 95% of Best Mexico Movers' Mexico-bound moves originate in the United States. Best Mexico Movers also moves our clients' household goods from Canada to Mexico and from Mexico to the United States, although those routes are not priced in this guide. For those prices, please contact us.

One of the first questions most people ask when considering moving their household goods to Mexico is “How much will it cost?”

Of course, there is no single answer that fits everyone. Your cost will depend on where you’re moving from, where you’re moving to, how much you’re bringing, how your household goods are packed and loaded, the type of moving company you use, insurance, and many other factors.

However, it is possible to show you how pricing for your move to Mexico works and to provide you with a few realistic examples that will give you a useful idea of the general range of prices.

For example, here are the current approximate Best Mexico Movers base prices for legally transporting and importing household goods using the menaje de casa from Dallas, Texas, to Ajijic / Lake Chapala:

Shipment Volume	* Base Price
600 cubic feet	\$8,950
1,200 cubic feet	\$10,050
2,400 cubic feet	\$11,550

* This is before packing and loading, insurance, and unloading, all of which are described later in this guide.



These prices in the table above illustrate one of the most important things to understand about international moving costs: **Moving twice as much usually does not cost twice as much.**

The reason it does not is that a large percentage of the costs associated with legally moving and importing used household goods across an international border exist whether you are moving 600 cubic feet or 1,200 cubic feet. As a result, smaller shipments usually cost considerably more per cubic foot than larger shipments.

This guide explains those costs, provides examples for several different Origins (where you start your move in the US or Canada) and Destinations (where you move to in Mexico), and shows how your choice of mover, shipment size, packing, transportation, customs, insurance, and unloading affect the total amount you may pay.

How We Calculated the Moving Cost Estimates in this Guide

Before we started Best Mexico Movers in 2018, we spent eight months researching every aspect of the move to Mexico business. By the time of this publication, we have moved more than 1,000 of our clients to or from Mexico. The extensive research we did before we started our company combined with our subsequent experience working within the industry has given us a good insight into what, in general, clients pay to move their household goods to Mexico.



The pricing figures in this guide come from the following sources.

- **Best Mexico Movers prices** are based on our current price sheet and current pricing from the industry partners involved in our moves at the time this guide was written.
- **Independent packing and loading prices** are based on our experience reviewing thousands of quotes from independent packing and loading companies.
- **What we will call in this guide “legacy” international movers’ prices** are approximate ranges based on the research we did prior to starting our company, pricing reported to us by clients comparing movers, and quotations we have reviewed. Examples of legacy movers include networks affiliated with familiar names such as Allied and United.

Some other figures, such as the estimate of approximately 6.5 pounds per cubic foot for used household goods, are widely used moving-industry conventions.

All prices in this guide are in U.S. dollars unless otherwise noted.

Please note that we do not control other companies' pricing, and another mover may quote substantially more or less than the examples in this guide. Prices can change, sometimes greatly. This guide is intended to help you to establish a realistic preliminary budget to start your investigation. It is not meant as a substitute for obtaining current quotes for your specific move.

What Components Determine the Cost of Moving Household Goods to Mexico

The major components of an international household goods move to Mexico are:

- The level of coordination and client service provided by your mover
- Insurance
- Packing and loading at Origin
- Transportation through the United States or Canada
- Customs clearance and legal importation into Mexico
- Transportation within Mexico
- Unloading at Destination

The amount you pay for each component depends partly on the moving company and moving method you choose.

It also depends on how much you bring.



How the Volume of a Household Goods Move is Determined

Legitimate moving companies commonly price household-goods shipments by cubic feet, weight, or some combination of the two.

Most people do not have a good estimate of how much their household goods weigh. Estimating cubic feet is easier, so we'll start there, using a visualization example most people are familiar with.

Imagine a large house with a small bedroom that measures approximately 10 feet wide by 10 feet long, with an 8-foot ceiling. (This is pretty standard for the smallest bedroom in a large house in the U.S. or Canada.)

You would determine the total volume of that room by multiplying the width times the length times the height of that room. In this case, this room could hold 800 cubic feet, because $10 \text{ feet} \times 10 \text{ feet} \times 8 \text{ feet} = 800 \text{ cubic feet}$. Therefore, if you were to load everything you wanted to move into that room, front to back, side to side, top to bottom, with no room to spare, and it took the entire room but nothing more, you would have 800 cubic feet to move.



If everything you are moving would fill approximately three-quarters of that room, you would have roughly **600 cubic feet**.

If your household goods would fill approximately one and a half such rooms, you would have roughly **1,200 cubic feet**.

If your household goods would fill approximately three rooms, you would have roughly **2,400 cubic feet**.

For another comparison, the largest commonly available U-Haul moving truck is 26 feet long and has approximately 1,650 cubic feet of maximum cargo capacity. A standard 20-foot ocean shipping container has approximately 1,150 cubic feet of usable capacity.

Throughout this guide, we use shipments of **600, 1,200, and 2,400 cubic feet** as amounts to move. Those are simply convenient examples using the calculations we just discussed. Your shipment could be 536 cubic feet, 891 cubic feet, 1,146 cubic feet, or any other amount up to what would fit into a 53-foot trailer (about 3,800 cubic feet).

How You Can Determine the Weight of Your Household Goods

A commonly used moving-industry convention is to estimate the weight of used household goods at approximately **6.5 pounds per cubic foot**. (This ratio is commonly referred to in the industry as “density”.) Therefore, to determine the predicted weight of your shipment, just multiply the quantity of cubic feet it would occupy by 6.5.

Here are some examples:

Shipment Volume	Approximate Weight
600 cubic feet	3,900 pounds
1,200 cubic feet	7,800 pounds
2,400 cubic feet	15,600 pounds

The actual density of your shipment can vary. For example, if you had a grand piano weighing

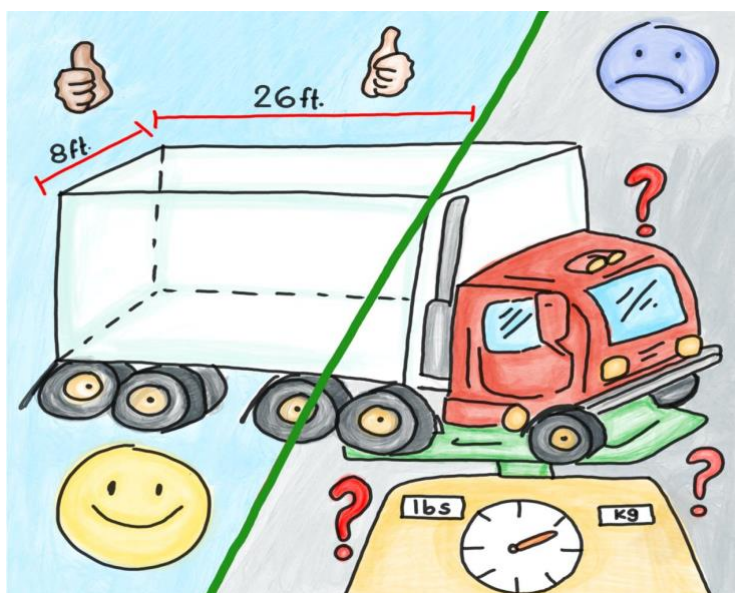
approximately 800 pounds and a lot of barbells, your shipment would likely be heavier than its cubic feet multiplied by 6.5 pounds.

Comparing Using Cubic Feet Against Using Weight for Estimating the Size of Your Shipment

If your mover's price depends on weight, how much your used household goods actually weigh may present a bit of a challenge for you to predict and later to verify before your household goods are loaded onto the truck and leaves your home or self-storage unit because you are very unlikely to weigh your own goods prior to this. This could result in a bad surprise for you after your household goods are loaded onto a truck and then actually weighed, because you may need to pay more than you expected because you agreed to pay by weight and the weight is more than expected.

It would present less of a challenge if your mover charged by cubic feet because you can see with your own eyes how much space your household goods occupy before they are loaded onto the truck and also after they are loaded onto the truck.

Best Mexico Movers uses pricing based primarily on cubic feet because our clients can more readily understand and observe the amount of physical space their household goods occupy than they can by how much they weigh.



Why Moving Half as Much Doesn't Cost Half as Much

This is one of the most important concepts to understand when budgeting for a move to Mexico.

If the price for moving 1,200 cubic feet is a certain amount, it does not follow that your price for moving 600 cubic feet will be half as much.

Why not?

Because legitimate international moving companies' costs are not proportional to the size of the shipment they're moving.

Even if a legal, properly documented international mover transported just one box, it would still have to pay costs associated with coordinating the move, complying with applicable laws, customs clearance, documentation, customs brokers, transportation, and other requirements.

Once those basic costs have been paid, adding an additional volume of household goods can be comparatively inexpensive.



This is why aggressively selling or giving away your possessions before your move does not always save as much money as people expect.

You should certainly avoid paying to move things you no longer want. However, before getting rid of possessions that you would otherwise want solely because you assume that doing so will significantly reduce your moving costs, it is useful to understand in reality how much the reduction in volume would actually reduce your price.

The Types of Companies We Will Use in Our Price Comparisons, and Why

In this guide, we will compare the pricing of Best Mexico Movers (because we know our pricing) and the pricing of the **legacy movers**, because we have a pretty good idea of their pricing as well, given our experience.

We will not include the pricing of the “**smaller legally compliant independent movers**” (Best Mexico Movers is one of these) because how each operates can be quite different, and what they charge is not at all uniform enough to put into a guide.

We will also not include the pricing of a class of individuals here at our company we call “**A Guy with a Truck,**” which is a term we use for people who hold themselves out as “movers” but that

are not legitimate because they do not comply with the law in two or more countries, don't offer insurance for your household goods, and, in many cases, don't even use a customs broker.

Generally, the price "A Guy" will quote you will be less than the price from a legacy mover or a



smaller legally-compliant independent mover because, unlike The Guy, legacy movers and smaller legally-compliant independent movers have costs for legal compliance and customs brokers that The Guy doesn't have.

The lower price offered by The Guy, however, should be compared against the risk of what could happen by contracting with an individual that does not comply with applicable laws and who may not even be able to offer to insure your household goods for the move.

Therefore, this guide will only discuss the pricing of movers that are legitimate, that comply with the laws in each country, that use customs brokers, that offer insurance of your household goods, and that move your items with at least a minimum degree of predictability and safety.

(On our site, you can read about all [the different ways to move or not move your household goods to Mexico and how to lower your costs.](#))

Next, let's discuss how prices are built and the cost for each component.

The Cost for Packing and Loading

Someone has to pack your household goods and load them into the truck or trailer.

How this is handled varies considerably between types of moving companies.

Legacy international moving networks generally use a local Origin Agent at the beginning of the move, which is generally just a licensee of the legacy moving company. The Origin Agent almost never knows anything about moving to Mexico and is the same Origin Agent that the legacy moving company would use for any other move, even one down the street.

Origin Agents will generally want to perform all of your packing and loading rather than allowing you to do any of it.

Based on our research, pricing reported to us by clients comparing movers, and quotations we have reviewed, we have seen that prices for packing and loading by legacy international movers commonly fall in the approximate range of **\$300 to \$500 per 100 cubic feet**, or approximately

\$45 to \$75 per 100 pounds.

Actual charges can be outside these ranges, and small shipments may be subject to minimum charges.

In contrast, Best Mexico Movers does not force our clients to use Origin Agents and to have those Origin Agents do all the packing and loading. In contrast, Best Mexico Movers allows our clients to pack as much or as little of their household goods as they choose.



Given that they are allowed to when working with us, some of our clients pack almost everything themselves. Others pack very little. A common compromise is for our clients to pack the easy, non-fragile items such as clothing, towels, linens, and books.

(If you pack any of your own items, our [packing and loading guide](#) should be useful to you.)

If the clients of Best Mexico Movers are allowed to pack any amount of their household goods they choose to, who packs the rest?

The answer in the case of Best Mexico Movers is that an independent local packing and loading company would do the rest. The client can do as little or as much as he or she likes. Best Mexico Movers introduces its clients to local packers and loaders. The client then chooses the one they want to work with and pays that provider directly. Best Mexico Movers does not receive any compensation whatsoever from the packing and loading company, but we still coordinate with the packing and loading company for matters such as inventories, insurance, and documentation. And we monitor packing and loading remotely at no charge, in order to

help in any way we can to make sure our clients' shipments are packed and loaded properly.



After reviewing thousands of independent packing and loading quotes, we commonly see charges of approximately **\$50 per worker per hour, plus materials**, although prices vary by location, provider, and the complexity of the job. Rates can be higher in more expensive parts of the United States and Canada.

As you will see in the examples below, the total packing and loading cost you will pay for your move depends heavily on how much of it you do yourself.

Here are examples using the same shipment sizes of 600, 1,200, and 2,400 cubic feet, showing the approximate prices for a legacy international mover to do 100% of the packing and loading, compared with various scenarios using local packers and loaders.

600 Cubic Feet

Packing and Loading Method	Approximately How Much You'll Pay for Packing & Loading
Legacy international mover	\$1,800–\$3,000
Client packs and loads everything	\$0
Independent professionals do approximately half	\$840
Independent professionals do approximately 100%	\$1,680

1,200 Cubic Feet

Packing and Loading Method	Approximately How Much You'll Pay for Packing & Loading
Legacy international mover	\$3,600–\$6,000
Client packs and loads everything	\$0
Independent professionals do approximately half	\$1,680
Independent professionals do approximately 100%	\$3,360

2,400 Cubic Feet

Packing and Loading Method	Approximately How Much You'll Pay for Packing & Loading
Legacy international mover	\$7,200–\$12,000
Client packs and loads everything	\$0
Independent professionals do approximately half	\$3,360
Independent professionals do approximately 100%	\$6,720

Why is the price you'll typically pay for packing and loading done by the Origin agent working with the network legacy moving company more than for independent local packers and

loaders, even for the same volume packed and loaded? It's because of the added cost of the overhead and commissions paid by the Origin Agent that the independent movers don't have to pay.

These are planning estimates, not quotes. Independent providers set their own prices.

How Doing Your Own Packing Affects Your Eligibility for Insurance

Insurance coverage can differ depending on who packed an item.

Under the insurance arrangement available through Best Mexico Movers, client-packed items can generally be insured against loss for up to \$500 per piece, but damage coverage extends only to the items that were packed by local professional packers approved by Best Mexico Movers.



This is one reason some clients choose to pack inexpensive, non-fragile possessions themselves while paying professionals to pack items for which damage coverage is more important.

Always confirm the specific insurance requirements and coverage with your mover before packing and always read the actual policy.

The Cost for Insurance

Insurance is an important part of comparing the offerings of international movers because, in the event of a claim, different types of coverage can produce dramatically different results.

If your "mover" does not provide for the insurance of your household goods, then most people would conclude that he would not be a legitimate mover. Instead, you're probably talking with A Guy with a Truck.

Unfortunately, if your shipment is not insured,



you have very little recourse if something goes wrong; you'll have to rely on The Guy.

Some legacy international movers provide insurance coverage based on the shipment's weight. A commonly encountered amount is **60 cents per pound**.

To understand what that means, consider a television weighing 21 pounds. At 60 cents per pound, the maximum payment in the event of a claim would be \$12.60, because **21 pounds × 60 cents = \$12.60**.

You probably wouldn't be happy with that amount.

Other movers, including Best Mexico Movers, provide insurance through a third-party insurance company based on the declared value of the household goods rather than by their weight.

Under current Best Mexico Movers pricing, full coverage for eligible professionally packed household goods, with a \$1,000 deductible, costs approximately **\$240 per \$10,000 of declared value**. You—not Best Mexico Movers—declare the value. Here's how that works out, depending on how you value your own household goods.

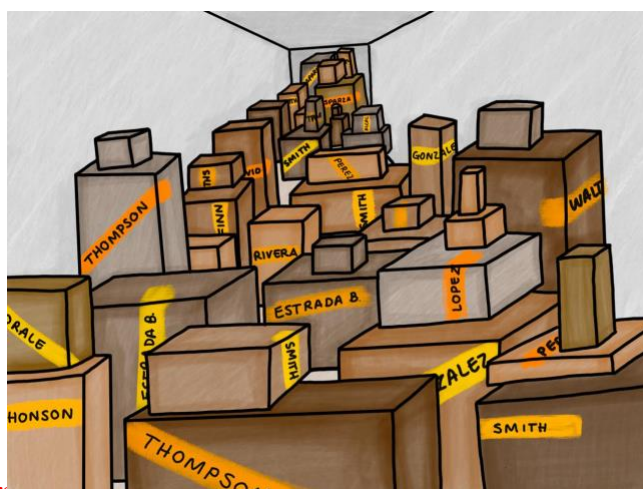
Declared Value Set by You	How Much You'll Pay for the Premium
\$5,000	\$120
\$10,000	\$240
\$20,000	\$480
\$40,000	\$960

Insurance terms, exclusions, packing requirements, deductibles, and coverage limits matter. Review the actual policy in all cases and never consider it sufficient that the word "insurance" appears in a quote.

The Cost for Transportation

The cost for transportation in the United States and Canada can change based on fuel costs, seasonality, driver and equipment availability, origin and destination, rural versus urban locations, and general freight-market conditions.

The physical method used to transport your



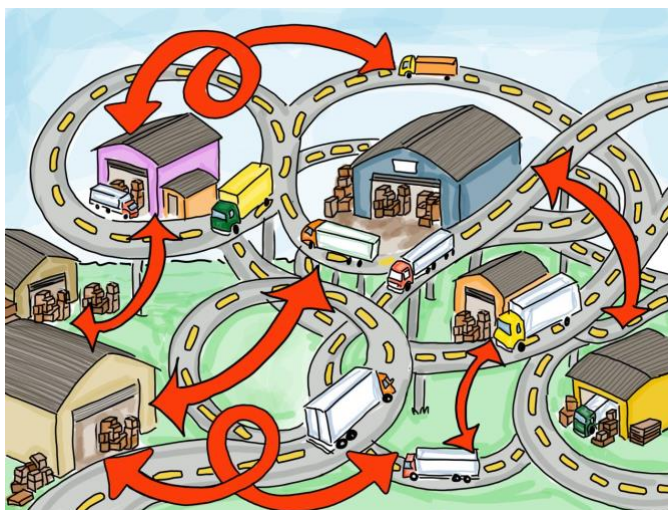
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household goods also varies considerably.

Legacy international moving networks very commonly use transloading and consolidation.

Transloading is when they move your household goods from one truck, trailer, or storage location into another. **Consolidation** is when they combine your household goods with shipments belonging to other clients in the same truck or trailer.

For example, using the commonly applied legacy moving company method of transloading and consolidating, the truck that leaves your house may take your household goods to a warehouse rather than driving directly toward the border. Your goods would then be unloaded into the warehouse, where they are stored. Later, your household goods would be combined with other shipments, loaded onto another truck or trailer and transported to the next warehouse, where the process repeats.



This is one reason why legacy international movers like to put your household goods into large wooden containers called lift vans, which make it easier for them to move their clients' household goods between warehouses and vehicles using forklifts.

It's also why they can't tell you with any degree of precision how long it will take for your



household goods to move from Origin to Destination: they don't know ahead of time because they generally don't know the location of the warehouses and they don't know the waiting time required to do the necessary amount of consolidation.

This process generally happens multiple times during a legacy international move, perhaps as many as six or eight times, over many weeks.

When comparing movers, ask: How many times will my household goods be unloaded and reloaded between my home and my destination in Mexico and where will this happen?

Also ask: Will my household goods be consolidated with other clients' shipments?

The answers tell you something important about how your move will actually be performed and what you're paying for.

Using transloading and consolidation introduces additional coordination, complexity, and overhead, which tends to drive up the cost.

It also provides a plausible explanation of how it could happen that one client gets a different client's goods.

How Best Mexico Movers Transports our Clients' Household Goods

Best Mexico Movers uses a different transportation model.

Our clients' household goods are **transloaded once, at the U.S.-Mexico border**, and we do not consolidate clients' household goods in Mexico.

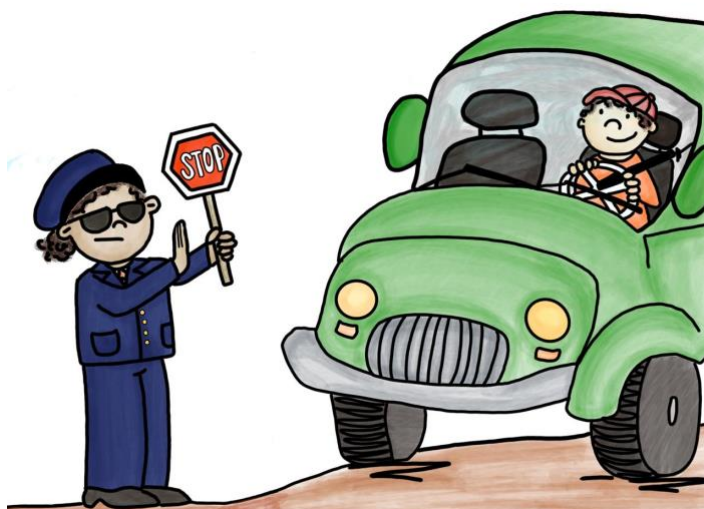
After customs clearance, the truck or trailer carrying a client's household goods is used exclusively for that client's shipment and is the same truck or trailer that delivers the household goods to that client's destination in Mexico.

Depending on the move, Best Mexico Movers can import household goods through border crossings including Laredo, Texas; El Paso, Texas; and the San Diego/Tijuana area.

For simplicity and ease of comparison and because a large percentage of legacy movers only use Laredo, the examples in this guide assume importation through Laredo.

The Cost for Customs Clearance

A legally imported shipment requires legal customs clearance, submissions, and licensed customs brokers. One hundred percent of the time, according to **Agencia Nacional de Aduanas de México (ANAM)**, **Mexico's National Customs Agency (Aduanas)**, legal importation of your household goods through a mover requires a process and documentation



referred to as the **menaje de casa**. On our site, you can [read our guide to the menaje de casa](#).

Best Mexico Movers includes the costs associated with normal customs clearance and legal importation within our base moving price rather than presenting normal customs clearance as a separate charge. Any legitimate mover, legacy movers included, generally follow the same policy.

How Transportation is Handled in Mexico

Transportation within Mexico is another significant part of the total cost.

Legacy movers will generally continue the same pattern of transloading and consolidating in Mexico that they use in the U.S. and Canada described above.

Under the Best Mexico Movers model, after customs clearance, the client's household goods travel to their Destination on a truck or trailer used exclusively for that client's shipment. The truck or trailer that picks up the household goods at our customs broker's facility is the same that arrives at the client's new home in Mexico.



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Guys with Trucks have various different methods, usually involving sharing trucks or trailers one or multiple times.

As is the case with transportation in the United States, the cost for transportation in Mexico does not increase proportionately with shipment volume. Moving twice as many cubic feet does not normally mean paying twice as much for transportation in Mexico.

You can see this clearly in the pricing examples later in this guide.

The Cost for Unloading in Mexico

Legacy international movers generally include basic unloading in their quote but then almost always leave open the possibility of imposing additional charges for circumstances that are not that unusual, such as what they define as “long carries,” stairs, elevators, or the need for a smaller shuttle vehicle. (You can usually see this in their agreement.)

In contrast, Best Mexico Movers generally does not include the cost of unloading in its overall

price. Instead, we introduce clients to independent local unloading crews in Mexico who do the unloading, which our clients pay for in pesos.

Typical current pricing for the unloaders used by Best Mexico Movers is approximately:

- **400 pesos (roughly USD \$23) per hour** for the supervisor
- **300 pesos (roughly USD \$18) per hour** for each additional crew member

For example, if the delivery truck can park immediately adjacent to the home, a three-person crew can generally unload a 600-cubic-foot shipment in approximately an hour and a half or less, which would result in charges of less than the equivalent of USD \$100. More complicated deliveries take more time, which our clients pay for per hour.



If the larger delivery truck cannot get sufficiently close to the home, a smaller **shuttle truck** may be required, which usually creates an additional cost regardless of the moving company being used.

Putting It All Together: Examples of What It Costs to Move Used Household Goods to Mexico

The following examples use six different Origins and six different Destinations to demonstrate how costs vary and to give you a general sense of the cost of your move.

These are examples, not a complete list of the routes served by us or by other movers. There are thousands of possible Origins throughout the United States and Canada and many Destinations throughout Mexico. **Best Mexico Movers and most legacy movers will pick up and deliver to close to all of them.** However, publishing a price for every possible combination would be too large. Instead, the examples below show several different Origins, Destinations, and shipment sizes so you can develop



a sense of the price range.

We did not include the very popular destinations we also move to in Baja California such as Cabo San Lucas and La Paz because it is generally not practical to import to these destinations through Laredo. Instead, we would generally import through El Paso or San Diego.

We did include pricing to two of the more expensive destinations to transport to: Merida and Cancun / Playa del Carmen / Tulum. In the case of Merida, we also chose an expensive Origin—Flushing, New York. This is an extreme case to illustrate prices towards the maximum end of the scale. In the case of Cancun / Playa del Carmen / Tulum, we chose an Origin that was closer, which makes the overall price much less than if the Origin was also in New York



Approximately 95% of Best Mexico Movers' Mexico-bound business originates in the United States, which is why the examples below use U.S. Origins. We also handle moves originating in Canada and moves going in the opposite direction, from Mexico to the U.S., neither of which are covered here.

Here is what to be aware of when examining the prices displayed below.

- The pricing for both legacy movers and Best Mexico Movers includes transportation in the United States and Mexico, normal legal importation and customs-clearance services.
- In neither case is the cost of insurance included. Insurance costs are described above under “The Cost for Insurance.”
- The price for Best Mexico Movers includes coordination through a dedicated Personal Moving Assistant and their team whereas the price for legacy movers includes whatever level of customer service they provide, which varies considerably.
- The price for unloading for Best Mexico Movers’ clients is described in “The Cost for Unloading in Mexico”. The basic price for basic unloading is included in the total price for the legacy movers but could easily increase for the reasons also described in the same section.

In order to make the table easier to read, we will shorten “Best Mexico Movers” to “BMM.”

The BMM Base Price is the same price as the BMM price when the client does 100% of the packing and loading because when the client does all their own packing and loading, there is no additional price for the client to pay to anyone.

For BMM pricing, we include in our range of pricing examples in which local packers and loaders perform anywhere from zero to 100% of the packing and loading. In order to reduce the cost for overhead, the cost for packing and loading is paid by the client directly to the local packers and loaders, not to BMM.

Shipment size is in cubic feet.

These are estimates for comparison and budgeting, not quotations from any particular competing mover.

Example A **Dallas, Texas, to Ajijic / Lake Chapala**

Shipment Size in Cubic Feet	BMM Base Plus the Range of 100% Client Pack & Load to 100% Local Packers & Loaders Pack & Load	Legacy Mover With 100% Legacy Mover Pack and Load
600	\$8,950 to \$10,630	\$13,435 to \$14,635
1,200	\$10,050 to \$13,410	\$16,665 to \$19,065
2,400	\$11,550 to \$18,270	\$22,215 to \$27,015

Example B **Denver, Colorado, to Puerto Vallarta**

Shipment Size in Cubic Feet	BMM Base Plus the Range of 100% Client Pack & Load to 100% Local Packers & Loaders Pack & Load	Legacy Mover With 100% Legacy Mover Pack and Load
600	\$10,350 to \$12,030	\$15,255 to \$16,455
1,200	\$12,250 to \$15,610	\$19,525 to \$21,925
2,400	\$14,250 to \$20,970	\$25,725 to \$30,525

Example C
Los Angeles, California, to Mexico City

Shipment Size in Cubic Feet	BMM Base Plus the Range of 100% Client Pack & Load to 100% Local Packers & Loaders Pack & Load	Legacy Mover With 100% Legacy Mover Pack and Load
600	\$10,650 to \$12,330	\$15,645 to \$16,845
1,200	\$13,650 to \$17,010	\$21,345 to \$23,745
2,400	\$15,950 to \$22,670	\$27,935 to \$32,735

Example D
Portland, Oregon, to San Miguel de Allende

Shipment Size in Cubic Feet	BMM Base Plus the Range of 100% Client Pack & Load to 100% Local Packers & Loaders Pack & Load	Legacy Mover With 100% Legacy Mover Pack and Load
600	\$10,950 to \$12,630	\$16,035 to \$17,235
1,200	\$14,250 to \$17,610	\$22,125 to \$24,525
2,400	\$17,705 to \$24,425	\$30,217 to \$35,017

Example E
Flushing, New York, to Merida, Yucatan (More Expensive Origin and More Expensive Destination)

Shipment Size in Cubic Feet	BMM Base Plus the Range of 100% Client Pack & Load to 100% Local Packers & Loaders Pack & Load	Legacy Mover With 100% Legacy Mover Pack and Load
600	\$15,490 to \$17,170	\$21,937 to \$23,137
1,200	\$18,260 to \$21,620	\$27,338 to \$29,738
2,400	\$19,750 to \$26,470	\$32,875 to \$37,675

Example F

Waco, Texas, to Cancun / Playa del Carmen / Tulum (Less Expensive Origin and More Expensive Destination)

Shipment Size in Cubic Feet	BMM Base Plus the Range of 100% Client Pack & Load to 100% Local Packers & Loaders Pack & Load	Legacy Mover With 100% Legacy Mover Pack and Load
600	\$13,720 to \$15,400	\$19,636 to \$20,836
1,200	\$15,010 to \$18,370	\$23,113 to \$25,513
2,400	\$17,250 to \$20,610	\$29,625 to \$34,425

What You Can Learn from These Examples

The examples are not intended to tell you how much your exact move will cost. Instead, they are intended to demonstrate the following broader principles and give broad price ranges.

- What class of mover you choose matters. A **legacy mover** and a **smaller legally compliant independent mover** may use very different logistics. Because many independent movers have less network overhead than legacy movers, their costs—and therefore the price you pay—can be lower.
- **Packing method matters.** If you are allowed to and decide to do some of your own packing, you are likely to save a good amount of money.
- **Shipment size matters—but not in a simple proportional way.** This is particularly important if you are deciding what to sell, donate, give away, or bring with you. Notice what happens to the price when the shipment doubles from 600 to 1,200 cubic feet. The volume doubles, but the approximate base price increases by much less than that. Increasing from 1,200 to 2,400 cubic feet doubles the shipment again, but the approximate base price does not come close to doubling.
- **Origin matters.** Transporting household goods from Portland to the Mexican border costs more than transporting them from Dallas to the Mexican border. Some Origins, such as in New York City proper, can add a good amount to the cost of transportation because it is not only a considerable distance from the border, but it can also be difficult to bring a truck into New York City. (There are workarounds to reduce the cost, but these are beyond the scope of this guide.)
- **Destination matters.** Delivering to Mexico City is a different transportation job from

delivering to Lake Chapala, Puerto Vallarta, or San Miguel de Allende, and especially to Merida or Cancun.

On our site, you can [read a booklet that goes into greater detail on different types of moves and how those different types can reduce your cost of moving.](#)

What You Should Ask When Comparing the Pricing of Movers to Mexico

Two quotes with different prices may not describe the same service. Before comparing totals, find out what you are actually buying.

To find out what you're buying and to make sure you're talking to a legitimate mover, ask:

- How much experience does the company have specifically moving household goods into Mexico?
- Who is my point of contact during the move?
- Is the price based on cubic feet, weight, or both?
- How is the final shipment size or weight determined?
- Can the price change after my household goods are loaded?
- Am I allowed to pack any of my own household goods?
- Is packing and loading included in the quoted price?
- How many times will my household goods be unloaded, stored in warehouses, and reloaded onto different trucks or trailers, and where and when will this happen?
- Will my household goods be consolidated with other clients' shipments?
- What is the expected delivery window?
- Is normal customs clearance included?
- Who handles the Mexican customs process?
- What insurance is available?
- Is insurance based on weight or declared value?
- Is unloading included?
- What can cause additional charges at Destination?
- Will I pay extra for stairs, elevators, long carries, or a shuttle?



The lowest quoted number is not necessarily the lowest final price, and the highest quote does not necessarily provide the best service.

The objective is to understand what is included, what is excluded, what can change, and how your household goods will actually get from your old home to your new one.

How Much Should You Budget for Your Move?

A useful preliminary budget has four major categories. You can figure yours by using the table below:

Cost Component	Your Estimated Cost
Packing and loading	\$ _____
Transportation, customs clearance, and support services	\$ _____
Insurance	\$ _____
Unloading and possible Destination-access costs	\$ _____
Estimated total	\$ _____

Prices and other figures in this guide are approximate and can change. Always obtain current, move-specific pricing and insurance information from the companies and providers you are considering before making decisions.

