Blue Men Moving on Navigating Columbus Stairs, Permits and Older Buildings

Blue Men Moving explains how Columbus stairwells, historic streets and loading permits reshape apartment, home and office moves across the metro.



COLUMBUS, OH, UNITED STATES, September 16, 2026 / EINPresswire.com/ -- Moving across town in Columbus is rarely as simple as loading a truck at one curb and unloading at another. A large share of the homes and offices we move sit in buildings that were never designed around a moving day: third-floor walk-ups near campus, narrow brick streets in German Village, split staircases in Victorian Village doubles, and older downtown offices where the freight elevator has to be reserved days in advance. The building, not the distance, is what decides how a local move actually goes.

> In Columbus the building decides the move more than the miles do. When we measure the stairs and settle the parking before the truck arrives, moving day stops being the hard part."
>
> *Seth Arnold*

That is the part of moving services in Columbus, OH that we plan for first. Before a truck is booked, our crews look at how furniture will physically leave one building and enter the next: the turns in a stairwell, the width of a doorway, whether a sofa clears a landing or has to be stood on end, and where a 26-foot truck can legally sit without blocking a bike lane or a one-way street. In the older neighborhoods east and north of downtown, a loading spot often needs a temporary parking permit, and knowing which streets require one saves an hour of circling on the day.

Here is what that groundwork usually covers:

- Measuring stairwells, doorways and elevator openings against the largest pieces before moving day
- Confirming loading zones and pulling parking or street-occupancy permits where a

neighborhood requires them
- Reserving building or freight elevators and coordinating with property managers on time windows
- Protecting shared hallways, historic banisters and hardwood floors with pads and runners
- Sequencing the load so the first-off items are the ones a household needs first that night

Apartments and houses are only half of it. A lot of Columbus commercial space lives in the same older building stock, and an office, clinic or shop move runs on the same constraints with a stricter clock. For our commercial clients we phase the work around operating hours, label and inventory by department, and break the job into stages so a business is never fully offline. In these older buildings, residential and commercial moving comes down to the same discipline: know the space before you carry anything into it.

Timing is the other variable we manage. Columbus fills and empties on a schedule, from the student turnover around Ohio State each August to the closing dates that slip a week at the last minute. When a new place is not ready on the day the old one has to be vacated, our storage keeps a household or an office in the gap rather than forcing everything into a single stressful day. Packing carries the same idea forward, since the boxes that survive a stairwell are the ones packed to be carried, not just filled.

Local knowledge is what ties it together. We know that High Street near campus is a different move than a ranch in Reynoldsburg, that Short North parking disappears by mid-morning, that German Village bricks are hard on a loaded dolly, and that a Gahanna or Bexley cul-de-sac gives you room a downtown curb never will. From our base in Reynoldsburg we cover Columbus and the surrounding communities, including Gahanna, Bexley, Dublin, Hilliard, Powell, Grove City, Worthington, Pickerington, Newark, Lancaster and Pataskala.

A move is finished when the last box is inside and nothing got damaged getting there. Planning for the building, not just the drive, is how we get there.

Columbus Movers:
Blue Men Moving
101 Humphries Drive, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068
Phone: (614) 382-6777

Seth Arnold
Blue Men Moving
+1 614-382-6777
bluemenmovingcolumbus@gmail.com
Visit us on social media:
Instagram
Facebook

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