

How Much Do Movers Cost in Northern Virginia in 2026? Royal Movers Reveals 5 Things That Raise the Price

The Sterling moving company shares local moving estimates starting at \$550 and the five factors that increase the cost of hiring movers in Northern Virginia.

VA, UNITED STATES, October 5, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The Sterling moving company lists local moving costs by home size on its website and explains what pushes the final price up or down.

Royal Movers, a family-owned moving company based in Sterling, has published estimated local moving costs on its website, giving households comparing [Sterling, VA movers](#) a realistic starting point before they request a quote. A studio or one-bedroom move starts at an estimated \$550, and the company also lists five factors that most often raise the final bill.



Royal Movers team

Anyone planning a move eventually asks the same question: how much do movers cost? The answer depends on the size of the home, the number of movers on the crew and the hours the job takes. Customers often hear a number only after a phone call or an in-home visit. Royal Movers decided to publish typical ranges instead, along with crew size and the time each move usually takes, so families can plan a budget first and compare quotes with real figures.

Local Moving Costs by Home Size

The company's estimates for a typical local move are:

Studio or one bedroom: 2 movers, 3 to 4 hours, \$550 to \$750

Two bedrooms: 2 to 3 movers, 4 to 6 hours, \$750 to \$1,200

Three bedrooms: 3 movers, 5 to 8 hours, \$950 to \$1,650

Four bedrooms: 3 to 4 movers, 7 to 10 hours, \$1,450 to \$2,500

Five bedrooms or an estate: 4 or more movers, a full day or longer, custom quote

These figures are estimates, not fixed prices. They reflect the jobs handled by the company's local movers in Northern Virginia, from apartments in Reston and Herndon to single-family homes in Ashburn and Leesburg. Larger homes and estates are quoted individually because the amount of furniture, the number of rooms and the access at each address vary too much for a single range to be useful.

What Raises Moving Costs in Northern Virginia

Two homes with the same number of bedrooms can produce very different invoices. Royal Movers points to five factors that most often raise the price:

Stairs and elevators. Walk-up apartments, long hallways and shared elevators add time to every trip between the home and the truck, particularly in high-rise buildings in Arlington, Alexandria and Reston.

Specialty items. Pianos, safes and artwork need extra hands, special equipment or protective packing.

Packing and storage. Having the crew pack the home saves the customer days of work but adds hours to the job, and belongings held between a closing date and a move-in date add a storage charge.

Distance between locations. A move from Sterling to Ashburn involves far less drive time than a move from Sterling to Bethesda or Washington, DC.

Time of year. Summer is the busiest season in the industry, and the company notes that summer moves cost more.



Royal Movers truck



Royal Movers during a residential move

Understanding these factors helps explain why two quotes for the same size home can differ by hundreds of dollars, and it gives customers specific questions to ask before they book.

How to Lower the Cost to Hire Movers

For a local move, the cost to hire movers largely depends on time. Anything that shortens moving day tends to shrink the bill, and a few steps make a noticeable difference:

Choose a date outside the summer peak. Fall and winter dates are easier to reserve and avoid peak-season pricing.

Declutter before the crew arrives. Every item that is sold, donated or thrown away is one less item to wrap, carry and load. Royal Movers publishes a decluttering guide for Northern Virginia households on its blog.

Pack the simple rooms yourself. Books, linens and clothing are easy to box up ahead of time, and Royal Movers has a guide to finding [free moving boxes in Sterling, VA](#) and across Northern Virginia. Customers can also buy boxes, tape and bubble wrap directly from the company and leave fragile or bulky pieces to the crew.

Prepare both buildings. Many apartment and condominium buildings require residents to reserve a service elevator or a loading dock, and some neighborhoods require a permit to hold curb space for a moving truck. Arranging both in advance prevents paid time spent waiting.

Book early. Booking several weeks ahead gives customers more date options, including less busy days that are easier to schedule.

How to Read a Moving Estimate

A published price range is a starting point, and the written estimate is where the details matter. A clear estimate for a local move should state the number of movers, the expected hours and the services included, such as packing, furniture disassembly and reassembly, or storage. If anything is unclear, it is worth asking how the final price is calculated when a job runs longer than planned.

For moves across state lines, federal rules add further protections. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration requires interstate movers to provide a written estimate and a copy of its booklet, "Your Rights and Responsibilities When You Move." Estimates for those moves are either binding, which locks the price for the listed items and services, or non-binding, which can change based on the shipment's actual weight. Knowing which type is being offered avoids surprises on delivery day.

Royal Movers provides free quotes by phone or through the request form on its website. Customers enter the moving date, both addresses and the size of the home, and the company follows up with a quote based on those details.

About Royal Movers

Royal Movers is a family-owned moving company based in Sterling, Virginia. It provides local and long-distance moving, commercial and office relocations, packing and unpacking, piano moving,

senior moving and short- and long-term storage. Its crews serve Loudoun and Fairfax counties, Arlington, Alexandria, Washington, DC, and parts of Maryland, including Bethesda, Rockville, Silver Spring and Gaithersburg. The company has been accredited by the Better Business Bureau since 2018 and holds an A+ rating. With a 4.9-star rating from 363 Google reviews, customers consistently rate it among the [best movers in Northern Virginia](#).

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