

Air Freight

Shipment should include all items considered essential for initial occupancy of your accommodation (for example, seasonal clothing, kitchenware, linen, and toiletries).

Delivery

Except for air shipments of essential items, you should not expect to receive the bulk of your household effects for at least six to eight weeks, and very often up to three months later, depending on factors such as distance, the country concerned, sailing frequencies and so forth. Even moves between Canada and the United States are sometimes delayed while the company waits for someone else's effects to fill the van going to a given destination. Here is an idea of what actually happens:

1. Once your effects are picked up from your home, they are trucked to the mover's warehouse, and prepared for overseas shipment. To complete this preparation the packing company has three working days for an air shipment, and five days for a sea shipment. Then Relocations (ABMR) are advised of the size, weight, etc. of the shipment.
2. ABMR requires one working day to prepare a request for bids from four freight forwarders.
3. The freight forwarder has 48 hours in which to submit his bid to ABMR. During this time the freight forwarder works out a routing for your shipment with reference to post shipping instructions and ABMR approval.
4. ABMR then selects the winning bid on the basis of costs, routing and reliability of services. Then the freight forwarder and the moving company are advised, which takes one day.
5. The successful freight forwarder then has three working days to pick up and deliver the shipment to the appropriate air or sea port.
6. For moves to the USA from Canada the use of a freight forwarder is not required, as almost all these moves are by van.

Storage

Your surplus effects will be stored at Government expense in a government approved/insured warehouse. At the time of packing, you will be required to sign a warehouse receipt describing the condition of all of your furniture and major effects put into storage. Watch what you sign; it could be important if you have a loss or damage claim after returning to Canada. Ensure that the effects are properly tagged for air, sea or storage, and that the packing lists are accurate. It is suggested that you mark the packed boxes with a felt marker yourself indicating the type of shipment.

Hint — Before the mover comes to your home, electrical appliances should have been inspected and their good working order attested to by a qualified service person in writing; a copy of this must accompany your inventory.

3.9 Shipment of An Automobile

You may be wondering what to do with your car and have made inquiries about its shipment, ownership and operation especially in countries where conditions are very different than in Canada. The following are some important items to think about in this regard:

- How much can I afford to spend?
- Left Hand vs Right Hand Drive?
- What will the resale value be at the end of the posting?