Moving Truck Size Chart

Understanding the Moving Truck Size Chart

When you're planning a move, one of the first decisions that can make or break your experience is choosing the right truck size. A **moving truck size chart** is an essential tool that helps you match your household's volume with the appropriate rental truck. By using the chart, you avoid overpaying for a larger truck or scrambling to fit too many boxes into a smaller one.

Why a Size Chart Matters

A truck's interior volume is measured in cubic feet. Knowing the exact capacity helps you estimate how many boxes, furniture pieces, and appliances will fit. It also lets you compare rental rates across companies, since most pricing is based on the truck's size and rental duration. Without a chart, you risk renting a truck that's too small—leading to extra trips—or too large, which can be costly and cumbersome.

Common Truck Sizes Explained

- **10-foot truck** – Ideal for a studio or one-bedroom apartment. Holds 1–2 small boxes and a few pieces of furniture.
- **12-foot truck** – Perfect for a one-bedroom or small studio. Fits 2–4 boxes, a sofa, and a small bed.
- **15-foot truck** – Works well for a two-bedroom apartment or a small house. Carries 4–6 boxes, a sofa, a dining table, and a mattress.
- **17-foot truck** – Suitable for a three-bedroom house. Holds 6–8 boxes, a large sofa, a dining set, and a mattress.
- **20-foot truck** – Best for a three-to-four-bedroom house. Accommodates 8–10 boxes, a large sofa, a dining set, a mattress, and a few appliances.
- **26-foot truck** – The largest standard rental, great for a large house or a multi-family move. Fits 10–12 boxes, a sofa, a dining set, a mattress, and multiple appliances.

How to Use the Chart for Your Move

1. **Inventory Your Items** – List every piece of furniture, box, and appliance.
2. **Estimate Box Volume** – A standard moving box averages about 10–12 cubic feet. Multiply by the number of boxes.
3. **Add Furniture Volume** – Use online calculators or approximate measurements: a sofa can be 25–35 cubic

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feet; a mattress 15–20 cubic feet.
4. **Check the Chart** – Find the truck size that comfortably exceeds the total cubic footage.
5. **Consider Weight Limits** – Most trucks have a weight restriction (often 3,500–5,000 lbs). Ensure your load stays within limits to avoid extra fees.

Factors That Influence Your Choice

- Number of rooms and overall square footage
- Quantity of large appliances (refrigerator, washer, dryer)
- Availability of loading space (garage vs. curb access)
- Rental company's mileage and fuel policies
- Seasonal demand (peak moving months can affect pricing)

Tips for Packing Efficiently

- **Start with the lightest items** – Pack boxes of books and linens first; they're easier to move.
- **Disassemble furniture when possible** – This reduces volume and protects joints.
- **Use packing cubes** – They keep items organized and help you gauge space usage.
- **Place heavy items at the bottom** – This keeps the truck's center of gravity low.
- **Leave space for the driver's seat and steering wheel** – Don't pack behind the front seat.

Choosing the Right Truck: A Quick Decision Guide

Below is a quick reference that matches common household scenarios with truck sizes:

- Studio or one-bedroom apartment: **10-foot or 12-foot**
- Two-bedroom apartment: **15-foot**
- Three-bedroom house: **17-foot or 20-foot**
- Four-bedroom house or larger: **20-foot or 26-foot**

Conclusion

Using a **moving truck size chart** transforms a stressful decision into a simple, data-driven choice. By accurately estimating your load, you can select a truck that balances cost, convenience, and safety. Remember to account for both volume and weight, pack strategically, and compare rates across rental companies. With the right truck in hand, your move will be smoother, faster, and more affordable.