# When to Use Storage Between Two Homes in London

## When Should You Use Storage Between Two Homes?

If you are moving between two homes - perhaps from a flat to a house, from one rented property to another, or during a home renovation - you may find yourself with belongings that have no place in either location for a short while. The direct answer is: you should use a storage unit when the gap between moving out of one home and into the other is longer than a few days, or when the new home is not ready to receive all your furniture and boxes at once. Temporary storage acts as a buffer, keeping your possessions safe, dry and organised while you sort out the logistics of the move.

## Why the Gap Matters

The most common reason to need storage between two homes is a timing mismatch. You may have to vacate your current property on a certain date, yet the new place is not available until weeks later. Even a gap of a week can create problems if you have furniture, appliances or boxes that cannot stay in a car or with a friend. A storage unit gives you a secure place to keep everything until you are ready to move into the next home.

Another situation is when the new home needs work before you can move in. Renovations, painting or flooring installation often take longer than expected. Rather than living among dust and tools, you can store your belongings in a unit and move them in once the space is ready. This also protects your furniture from accidental damage during construction work.

## Types of Items That Benefit from Temporary Storage

Not everything needs to go into storage. Everyday essentials - clothes, toiletries, kitchen basics and important documents - should stay with you. But larger or seasonal items are prime candidates for a storage unit. Consider storing:

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- Furniture that will not fit in the new home immediately, such as sofas, beds, tables and wardrobes.
- Seasonal items like winter coats, holiday decorations or garden furniture that you will not need for months.
- Tools, DIY equipment and sports gear that take up space but are used only occasionally.

- Boxes of books, kitchenware, linens and other household goods that you can unpack at your own pace.
- Items from a deceased relative's home that you need to sort through but cannot keep in your current living space.

## What to Look For in a Storage Unit

When you are choosing a storage facility for the gap between homes, several factors matter. First, think about access. Some facilities offer 24-hour access, while others have limited hours. If you need to retrieve an item during the week, check the opening times. Also consider the location: a unit near either your old home or your new one can save travel time.

Second, consider the size. Storage units come in a range of sizes, from small lockers to room-sized spaces. A good rule is to measure your belongings and then choose a unit slightly larger than you think you need. It is easier to have a bit of extra space than to struggle with a cramped unit where you cannot move boxes.

Third, security matters. Look for facilities with CCTV, secure gates and individual locks on each unit. You want to be confident that your belongings are safe while they are out of your sight.

## Protecting Your Belongings in Storage

Even a short stay in storage can expose your items to dust, moisture and temperature changes. Proper preparation makes a difference. Clean and dry all items before packing them. Use sturdy boxes and tape, and label everything clearly so you know what is inside without opening each box.

For furniture, wrap pieces in protective covers or blankets. For electronics, remove batteries and pack them in their original boxes if possible. For clothing and linens, use plastic storage bins rather than cardboard to keep out dampness. Pay attention to moisture control: place silica gel packs or moisture absorbers inside the unit, especially if the facility is not climate-controlled.

## Access Arrangements and Inventory Management

One advantage of using a storage unit during a move is that you can take items out gradually as you need them. Plan your packing so that things you may need sooner - such as tools, bedding or kitchen items - are near the front of the unit. Create a simple inventory list on paper or a note on your phone. This saves you from digging through boxes to find a single item.

If you are storing items for several weeks, check on them at least once. A quick visit lets you spot any signs of moisture, pests or damage early. Most storage facilities allow you to visit

during their opening hours, so take advantage of that.

## Safe Storage Between Homes and Peace of Mind

The whole point of using a storage unit during a move is to reduce stress. You do not have to rush the move-in process or leave your belongings in a friend's garage. With safe storage between homes, you can take the time you need to get the new place ready. You also avoid the risk of damage from moving everything twice - once to a temporary spot and then to the final home. A single move into storage and then out again is often easier on your furniture and your schedule.

## When Not to Use Storage

Storage is not always the best answer. If the gap between homes is only a day or two, and you have help to move directly, you may not need it. Similarly, if you can leave some items at the old property or store them with family, that may save money. Storage costs add up over time, so it is worth calculating whether the fee is less than the hassle of moving everything twice. Also, if you are moving internationally or across the country, you may need a different kind of logistics service rather than a local storage unit.

BMS Removals is also on LinkedIn.

## Choosing a Provider in London

In London, many storage companies serve the area around Merton, Wimbledon and South London. When looking for a provider, ask about the length of the rental period, whether there is a minimum term, and what insurance options are available. Some companies offer free surveys where they assess the volume of your belongings and suggest the right unit size. This can help you avoid overpaying for space you do not need.

Also check the facility's reputation. Look for reviews online or ask for recommendations from friends who have moved recently. A reliable provider will have clear terms, secure premises and helpful staff.

## Final Practical Tips

To make the most of storage between two homes, plan ahead. Book the unit before your moving day so you have a place to go. Pack items in categories and label boxes on the top and one side. Keep a small bag with essentials - clothes, toiletries, important documents - that you take with you rather than store. And remember that storage is a temporary solution; set a deadline for when you will empty the unit so you do not pay for months longer than necessary.

If you are in the London area and need a reliable storage service, you can contact BMS Removals. They are based at Unit 7, Merton Industrial Park, Lee Road, London, SW19 3HX and can be reached on +44 7753 864493.