

A Guide to Moving Antiques and Fragile Items Safely in London



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Introduction

Moving fragile or antique items isn't just about careful handling — it's about expert preparation, the right packing techniques, and safe transit. In a city like London, with narrow streets, stairs, and tight spaces, every step counts. Whether it's vintage furniture, fine china, or cherished artwork, follow this guide to protect your valuables during any move.

How to Pack Antiques and Fragile Items Safely

Start by assessing each item's fragility, size, and weight. Photograph everything and note existing damage for insurance purposes. Use the "box-in-box" method for extra protection:

- Wrap the item fully with bubble or foam wrap
- Place it in a snug inner box padded on all sides
- Place the inner box into a larger one lined with cushioning

What Packing Materials Should I Use for Fragile Items?

Use high-quality, specialised materials to prevent cracks, chips, or stains. Avoid newspaper ink or worn boxes.

- [Bubble wrap](#) – For cushioning delicate surfaces
- [Foam wrap or corner guards](#) – For artwork and glass
- **Double-walled boxes** – Extra strength and structure
- [Acid-free tissue paper](#) – Protects finishes from damage
- **Plastic covers** – Ideal for furniture and textiles

Should I Label Boxes Containing Fragile or Antique Items?

Yes. Always label fragile boxes clearly to ensure careful handling. Use:

- "FRAGILE" on multiple sides
- "THIS SIDE UP" arrows
- Inventory number matching your checklist

Can I Move Antiques Myself or Should I Hire Professionals?

If the item is lightweight and well-protected, you might do it yourself. But for larger, more valuable pieces, [professional movers](#) with insurance and experience are the safer choice.

Choose professional movers when:

- The item is heavy, large, or unusually shaped
- You need guaranteed insurance cover
- You want custom crating or van securing

Do Removal Companies in London Offer [Fragile item packing services](#)?

Yes. At London Man Van, we offer full and partial packing for antiques and breakables. Our team uses expert techniques and high-quality materials to secure even the most delicate items.

How Do Movers Protect Antiques from Damage During Transport?

Our trained movers load fragile items last and secure them upright, away from heavy objects. Padding, straps, and strategic positioning inside the van minimise the risk of breakage.

Should I Insure My Antiques Before Moving?

Yes. Declare the value of antiques or collectibles in advance to ensure full goods-in-transit insurance. It provides peace of mind and coverage in the rare event of accidental damage.

What's the Safest Way to Move Glass, Mirrors, or Artwork?

Use mirror boxes, corner guards, and foam sheets. Wrap in acid-free paper and secure in boxes with “this side up” instructions. Never lay glass flat — always transport upright.

How Should I [Prepare Antique Furniture for Moving](#)?

Protect corners, legs, and surfaces with foam or plastic wrap. Disassemble where possible and avoid taping directly on wood or leather.

What Are Common Mistakes When Moving Fragile Items?

- Using cheap or reused packing materials
- Leaving gaps inside boxes
- Failing to label fragile boxes clearly
- Stacking heavy items on top of delicate ones

Why Choose London Man Van for Fragile and Antique Moves?

- 10+ years of experience handling antiques and fragile cargo
- Trained staff using safe, professional techniques
- Packing supplies and custom crating available
- Transparent pricing, real-time updates, and insurance cover

FAQs: Moving Antiques and Fragile Items in London

Can I pack my antiques myself?

Yes, but for peace of mind, it's best to let professionals pack high-value or delicate items using industry-grade materials and techniques.

What if my item is oversized or oddly shaped?

We can build or provide custom crates to suit your item's dimensions and ensure safe transport across London.

Do you provide protective materials?

Yes. We offer everything from acid-free paper and bubble wrap to double-walled boxes and sofa covers via our online store.

Is insurance included for valuable items?

Yes. Standard goods-in-transit insurance is included, and high-value declarations allow us to extend full coverage.

? Ready to Move Your Antiques Safely?

Don't risk your priceless items with just anyone. Trust **London Man Van** — the experts in moving fragile and valuable goods in London.

- ? Experienced movers
- ? Fragile item specialists
- ? Full packing services and supplies
- ? Instant online booking

? [Get a Free Moving Quote Now](#) | ? Call [020 7060 4743](tel:02070604743)