

What Are the Hidden Costs to Watch Out for When Moving in London?



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1. Packing Materials and Supplies

Many people assume that boxes, tape, and wrap are part of the moving fee — but they're usually extra.

? Common extras include:

- [Cardboard boxes](#)
- [Bubble wrap](#) and [stretch film](#)
- [Packing tape](#)
- [Mattress covers](#) and [wardrobe boxes](#)

? **Tip:** Buy your supplies early from our [packing materials store](#) to avoid last-minute markups.

2. [Packing and unpacking services](#)

These services are often optional and charged separately — especially if requested on the day of the move.

? We offer:

- Full packing & unpacking services
- Fragile item wrapping
- Furniture disassembly/reassembly

? **Book in advance** to guarantee better availability and pricing.

3. Long Carry Fees

If movers have to carry your belongings over long distances (e.g. from a 5th-floor flat with no lift), they may charge more for the labour involved.

? Common triggers include:

- No lift access
- Narrow hallways or staircases
- Underground or distant parking areas

? **Tip:** Always provide access details upfront during booking.

4. Congestion Charges and Parking Fees

[London's Congestion Charge Zone](#) , ULEZ, and restricted parking make moving more complicated — and costly.

? Potential charges include:

- Congestion Charge: £15/day
- ULEZ fee: varies by vehicle
- Parking fines without permits

? **Solution:** Let us help you arrange parking permits in advance.

5. Delays and Waiting Time Charges

If keys aren't ready or your packing isn't done, you could be charged by the hour while the movers wait.

? Time-based charges can add up fast.

? **Tip:** Stay in communication with your removals team. We provide real-time updates and tips to reduce downtime.

6. Fuel Surcharges or Travel Time

Some companies sneak in mileage fees or fuel surcharges, especially for jobs across multiple zones.

? >At London Man Van: Our quotes are all-inclusive — fuel and mileage are covered unless you exceed your booked time or route.

7. Appliance Disconnection or Handling

Washing machines, cookers, or dishwashers often require special handling and are not part of standard moving services.

8. Last-Minute Booking Fees

Urgent moves often cost more. Need same-day or next-day service? Be prepared to pay a premium.

? **Solution:** Use our [online booking system](#) to plan ahead and lock in lower rates.

How to Avoid Hidden Costs When Moving

- ?? Request a detailed, written quote
- ?? Declare stairs, tight access, or long walks upfront
- ?? Book packing/unpacking services in advance
- ?? Buy your own packing supplies early
- ?? Choose a [removals company with transparent pricing](#) (like us!)

FAQs About Moving Costs in London

What hidden fees do moving companies in London charge?

Common hidden fees include packing materials, waiting time, stair surcharges, fuel, congestion charges, and [last-minute booking fees](#). Always request a full quote upfront.

Do movers charge extra for stairs or long carries?

Yes. If there's no lift or a long distance to carry your belongings, a labour surcharge may apply. Mention these details when booking to get an accurate quote.

Are there additional charges for packing services?

Yes, unless otherwise stated. Packing is typically optional and needs to be booked in advance. Same-day packing often costs more.

Can parking restrictions in London increase moving costs?

Definitely. Without a pre-arranged parking permit, fines or delays can add to your bill. We help clients sort this in advance.

Do moving costs increase on weekends or holidays?

Yes, many companies charge more during peak times. Moving midweek is usually cheaper and more flexible.

What's the cost if the move takes longer than expected?

If your booking is hourly, overtime charges may apply. Being packed and ready helps avoid delays.

Are materials like boxes and tape included in the quote?

Usually not. Packing supplies are often billed separately unless you're using a full-service move package.

Do movers charge for cancellations or rescheduling?

Yes, especially with less than 24–48 hours' notice. Always check the cancellation policy when booking.

Final Thoughts

Hidden costs can turn your move into a budgeting nightmare — but they're completely avoidable with the right planning. At London Man Van, we believe in honest, transparent pricing so you always know what to expect. No surprises. [No hidden fees](#) . Just expert moving support when you need it most.

? Want a move with no hidden costs and full peace of mind?

Trust London Man Van — your local, reliable removals company in London with clear pricing, flexible booking, and exceptional service.

? [Get an Instant Online Quote](#)

? Or call us at **020 7060 4743** to speak with our friendly team today.