

# Real Estate and Classified **Marketplace**

No job too small for professionals

## If you move yourself you may regret it

by Terri Howell  
So you've been transferred to a new job and you've decided that it would be cheaper and wiser to move your furniture and belongings all by yourself.

Take the advice of some of those who have made this decision in the past and lived to regret it. Think very carefully about your decision, weigh the pros and the cons and don't just jump into a self-moving expedition until the alternatives have been checked out.

Too many of us have sad tales to tell of ruining our \$600 fridge or stove because we just weren't sure of how we could best protect it while it was in the back of a borrowed

half ton truck. I remember the time while moving a stove in a trailer without a tailgate in the winter that none of us stopped to consider the fact that there was ice on the trailer floor. Just a few miles away from our destination, the ropes holding the stove broke and the icy floor provided a frictionless surface that sent the stove off the trailer. All we could see was a shower of sparks as the stove whipped down the road narrowly missing cars coming behind us.

There is no doubt that moving yourself is

probably the most inexpensive way to move however, if you have valuables, it may not always be the wisest.

No matter where you are moving - across Canada, halfway around the world or next door, a professional mover will do it. There is no job that is too small or too large.

If your move is anywhere over 35 miles away, almost every large moving company will have a set rate for each 100 pounds. As one would expect, the higher the weight, the lower the rate is per 100 pounds.

According to Jack Cain from Cooke Cartage and Storage, most companies charge \$60 per 100 pounds for 500 pounds of furniture and belongings.

What most people don't realize, according to Mr. Cain, is that their furniture doesn't weigh that much. He says to move to Vancouver, the average cost for a household is \$2000 to \$3000. He says it would take a pretty big house to cost anything near the \$8,000 mark which most people just naturally assume it would cost for such a long move.

Mr. Cain says that most people like to get three or four estimates before they decide on a company. He cautions people who are moving to be careful. He says since each company charges almost the same, the low estimate is often the mark of a company that has underestimated the amount your belongings weigh. He says his company always gives a high estimate so that the people won't be shocked by a bill several hundred dollars over the estimate they were given.

If you are moving within a 35 mile radius, you are charged for two

men and a truck. Mr. Cain says most companies charge about the same for this as well. The price ranges around the \$30 per hour mark. He says the cost can be kept to a minimum if once the furniture is in the new house, the people move into place themselves and spare the time it would take the movers to do it. By the same token, when the movers are taking the furniture out it is less time consuming for them and cheaper for you if you have it already to go when they arrive and as close to the door as possible.

Mr. Cain says a 10 room house that takes 10 hours to completely move 35 miles away will only cost \$290. He adds that most people don't have a house that large and can be moved in a lot less time with a lot less expense.

The other nice thing about having a professional move your stuff is that it's insured. If your stove is dropped off the truck or seriously damaged in a collision there is some insurance to cover it.

Mr. Cain says in both long distance and local moves if there is damage done, or the truck is in an accident they are responsible. His moving company will pay 30 cents per pound per article for short distance moves and 60 cents per pound per article for long distance moves. Mr. Cain adds that a lot of people moving furniture over long distances will take out additional insurance which costs \$6.00 per 1,000 pounds. Therefore people with 10,000 pounds of belongings can insure

their things for \$60.

As one would expect, packing is one of the most important parts of moving. There are several alternative methods of packing. You can either get boxes from a local store and pack your stuff yourself, buy boxes from the moving company or have the moving company do all your packing for you at additional cost.

Moving companies, according to Mr. Cain, are careful with your things. He says their company wraps each

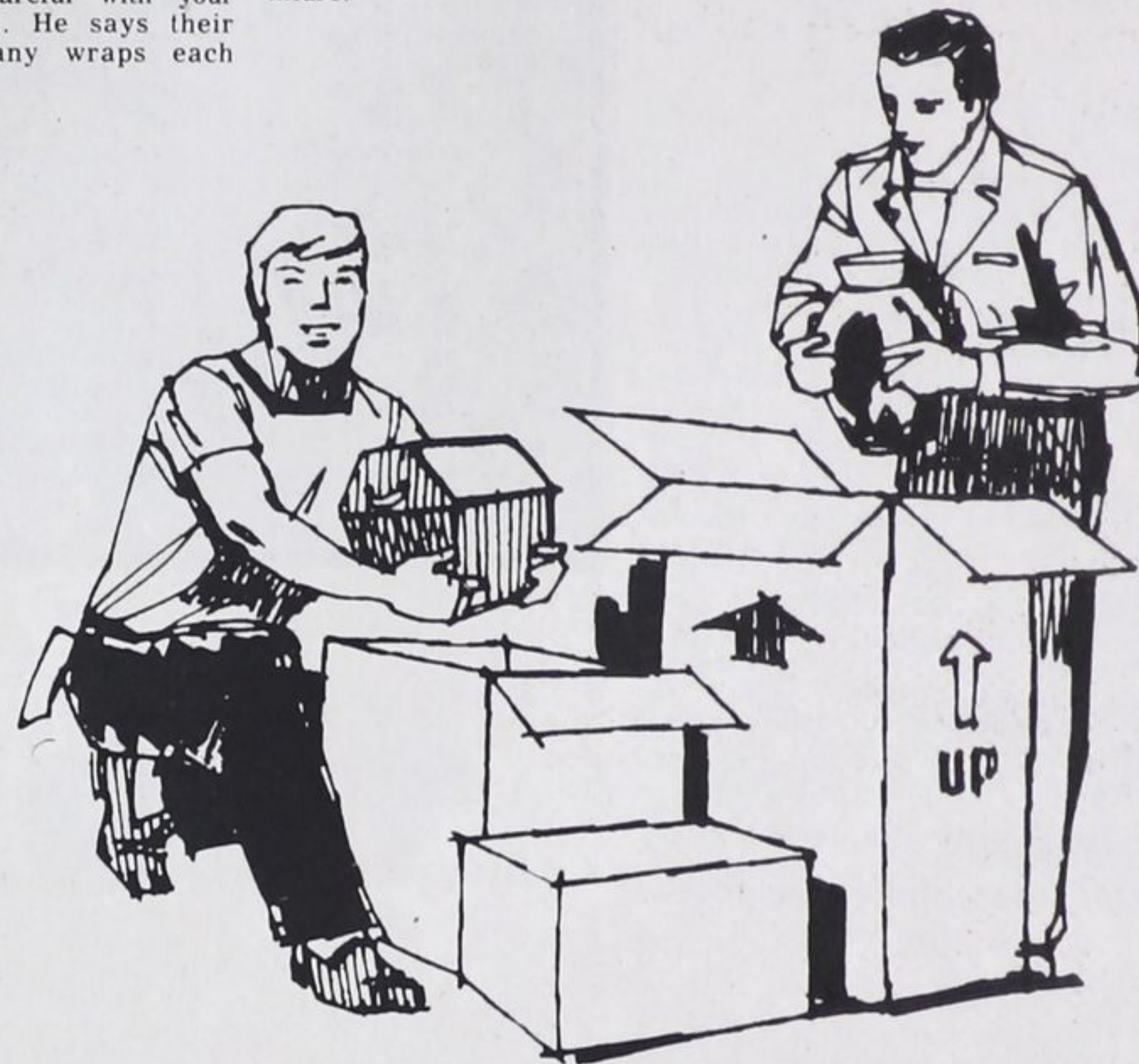
piece of furniture in quilted furniture pads and loads it securely in the truck. Mirrors are crated and other valuables such as oil paintings are put in containers. Clothes are packed in wardrobes.

The tractor trailers that move the furniture can carry 24,000 pounds of furniture. According to Mr. Cain most shipments only weigh about 6,000 pounds and therefore one tractor trailer can carry four households of furniture.

If the furniture is to go overseas it is loaded in containers that can be carried on the back of a tractor trailer and delivered to a boat or plane for shipping. Mr. Cain warns that selling your furniture is not the way to go. He says it costs about \$600 for a new fridge. The cost of

moving a fridge to Vancouver is only about \$40.

No one likes moving - it's long, it's hard on the nerves and it costs, however if you're going to do it, do it right.



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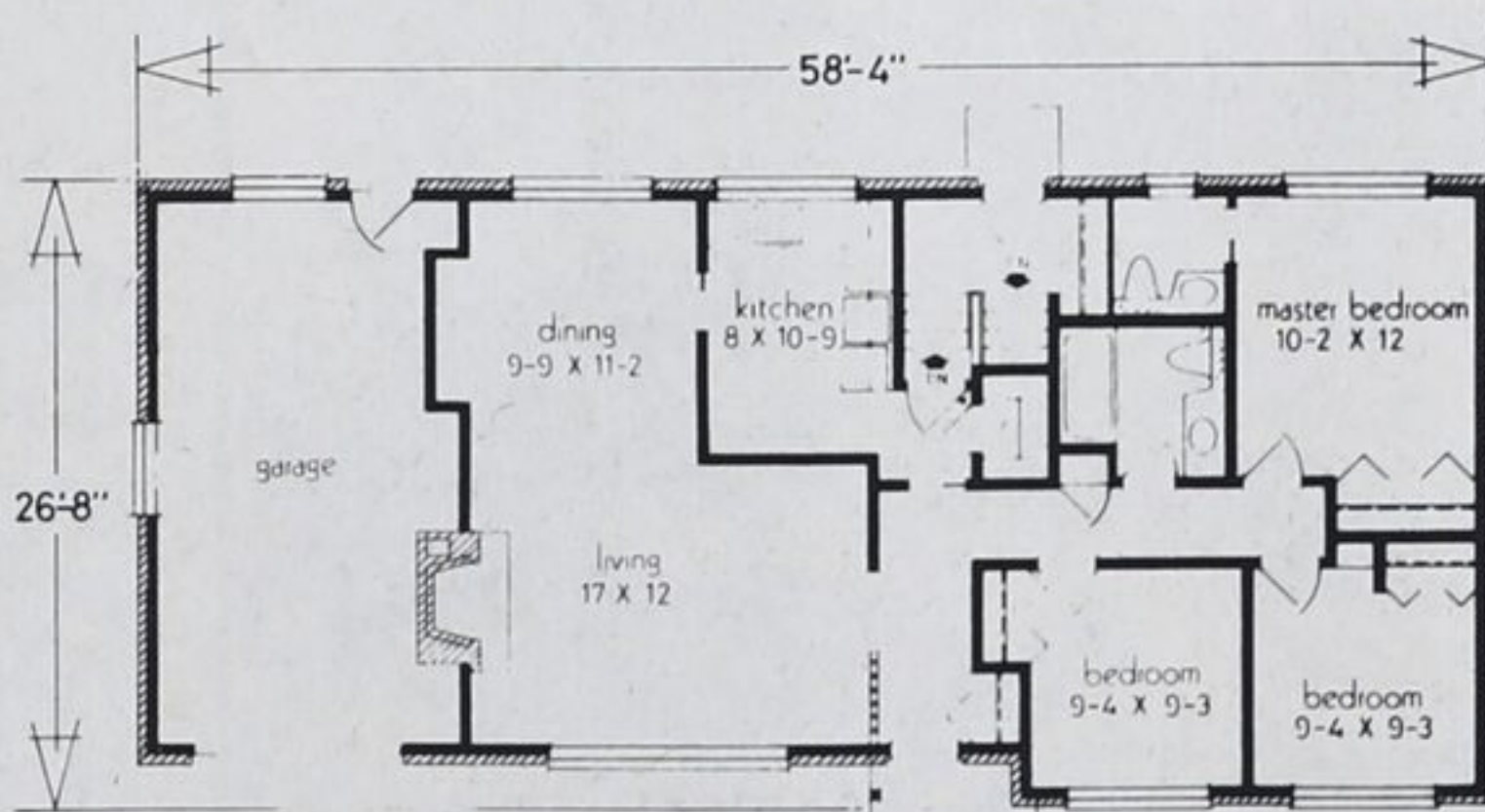


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## HOME OF THE WEEK

### Bungalow with options



PLAN No 75-1106-B

AREA: 1106 sq. ft.  
WIDTH: 58ft 4 in.



Plan Number: 75-1106B

This three bedroom, full basement bungalow design provides all of the necessary amenities, while offering the individual owner a range of options in exterior decor and future development. The weather-sheltered entrance leads into a small foyer, which leads left to the large, L-shaped, living / dining room combination. The living room features a brick-faced fireplace and excellent natural light. The dining room separates from the kitchen via pocket door and has provision for a built-in china and linen storage sideboard.

All three bedrooms are well separated from the main living area for disturbance-free entertaining. Each has good natural light and adequate closet storage facilities. The master has a two-piece ensuite bath, tucked behind a pocket door, and has the added benefit of a window facing the rear of the home, providing for gentle early-morning light.

Access to the full basement is gained from the hall and the large storage area off the kitchen. Here is abundant storage space and room for the future development of an extra bedroom and / or family room and recreational facilities.

If finished with the carport, vertical channel siding and shake roof, this practical home has all the charm of a rural western bungalow. If the garage option is selected, and the exterior finished in brick veneer with shingle roof, the design bears the solid, masonry appearance so characteristic of the residential districts of our large urban centres.

Plans for design No. 75-1106B may be obtained at a cost of \$50. for the first set and \$9. for each additional set, plus \$4. for postage and handling. B.C. residents please include 7 per cent sales tax.

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