

Moving To Mexico Guy—Frequently Asked Questions

Moving is always stressful, and probably much worse when entering a foreign country.

I have been doing international moving for many years and have certain ways or methods of doing things, depending on the client's needs that I am certain will work, because they have been proven and done many, many times before, even with unexpected variables. When I give a client options and advice, is because I know that it will work.

Getting worried or trying to figure out the different stages a move is not only unnecessary and will not resolve anything, it will not only stress you, make you lose sleep, and finally make you very tired.

Mexico does things differently from the US. It is very important that you do not try to impose your will, loose control or your temper. If so, you will only encounter problems. Here the local customs, language barrier, and how each officer or Mexican Army soldier does their job, can vary from person to person.

Remember that you are in their country and at their mercy. Things will not be under your terms or conditions, but instead, you must adapt to theirs. As long as you are calm, polite and respectful, everything will always work out. People in Mexico are friendly and helpful.

I usually travel by plane from Mazatlán to the States, and back to Mazatlán. I do not travel by vehicle with clients.

WHAT YOU CAN AND CANNOT BRING

Menaje de Casa is what normally can be found in a couple's/family home, such as furniture, household goods, decorations, and personal belongings to be proportional to the family size, all in normal amounts.

Per Menaje some items cannot be repeated such as a, refrigerator, freezer, stove, washer and dryer. No more than two televisions, DVD's, stereos/sound systems, home theaters or computers.

You or your pets can not travel in the Semi's cabin with the driver or in the enclosed Menaje.

New or used commercial or large power tools, used in professional shops such as carpentry or auto shops, cannot be included in a Menaje, as well with repetitive items that you plan to sell in Mexico, are not permitted. Commercial power tools or other articles can be imported legally, but separately from the semi-trailer with your Menaje.

In a Menaje you are not allowed to bring cars/trucks/vans, motorcycles, boats, or any other type of motorized vehicles. No guns, ammunition, or any type of fire arms. Same goes with bow and arrows, crossbows, spear guns, explosive, flammable or hazardous materials. No plants, soil, fruits, vegetables, live animals, meat, or poultry.

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If you are transporting \$10000U.S. or more in cash, it must be reported to Customs.

Some Mexican Consulates will not allow in your list: food, soap, shampoo, cream rinse, or any type of cleaning supplies. Perfumes, medication and such should not be included in a Menaje.

For those going to Baja—When arriving at Pichilinge, where the Ferry boat docks near La Paz in Baja California Sur, the Mexican Army will break the Federal numbered seal from the trailer, and inspect the Semi. If you have medication or perfumes, it could set off the Army drug detecting devices, making them inspect the trailer contents with more detail. They could unload the entire 48' trailer box in search for narcotics, causing possible damage of your goods, and time delays. A very well packed Menaje is important, it will better protect your goods. Depending if you are having your Menaje delivered South or North from La Paz, the Army may have a second check point, inspecting the Semi all over again. In Baja the Army is the law and they do things their way, so patience is a must.

The accuracy of the list that you provide, and the safe packing of your Menaje is entirely your own responsibility.

If items found by Mexican Customs, Army or any other check points, have been omitted or are different than described in your list, the entire load could be seized.

HOW MUCH CAN YOU BRING

It is often that people feel that they must sell or get rid of much of their belongings, in order to fit them in one 26ft. rental.

We use 48ft. enclosed trailer boxes, so we can almost fit two 26ft. trucks, if well packed.

This will not increase the price on the Semi, and no extra charge to you for weight or odd size items.

WAYS TO TRANSPORT FROM NOGALES, AZ. U.S.A. TO ANYWHERE IN MEXICO AND VICEVERSA

1. Entire Menajes with exclusive use of a 48ft. enclosed Semi trailer.
2. Partial Menajes by sharing a 48ft. Semi-trailer with other clients. Read below: More than one Menaje per Semi/trip.
3. Small amounts (no big pieces of furniture) exclusive trips using a regular Van or a 12/14 passenger Mexican rental Van- Read below: If you have a very small amount of household items.

WHERE DO YOU APPLY FOR YOUR MOVING DOCUMENTS

In Mexico, at the nearest immigration office from where you intend to live.

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Menaje de Casa in the U.S.A. at the nearest Mexican Consulate from where you live.

Mexican Consulates are outside Mexico and Oficinas de Inmigración are located within Mexico.

Each has their unique ways of doing things; documentation you will need, how it is presented, and the time required to complete it. To apply and acquire these important documents, you must be there in person. To avoid several trips to the Mexican Consulate or Oficina de Inmigración, comply with everything that they require on the first trip.

Many open from Monday to Friday, from 8:00a.m. to 2:00p.m. and will be closed on weekends and certain holly days.

Mexican Consulates can be helpful and great to work with, some are too big and busy, others do not have the necessary knowledge or experience taking longer to process documentation, and can only help those who live within their city or County.

The Nogales, AZ. Mexican Consulate, are knowledgeable, have experience, they work quickly and can process the Menaje de Casa, and Mexican passports in one day.

Helping US. citizens, even if they are not residents from the Nogales area. When paying for your documentation you will be asked for exact change, \$100U.S. bills are not accepted.

Menajes de Casa are once in a life time official permits, that the Mexican government gives out, to retired non-working people from the U.S.A. that have the Residente Temporal or Permanente Visa so they can legally and without Customs import duties, move their house contents into Mexico and retire there. They can be in only one person's name. To the Mexican government, Menajes are considered a temporary importation, that is why the promise to bring back the contents to your country, if you decide to return permanently.

Consulates can also give R. Temp. and approved Menajes to persons, when they represent a U.S. companies in Mexico, that will be living, but will NOT receive a salary in Mexico.

Menajes are good for 30 days from the approved issued date.

REQUIREMENTS FOR YOUR MOVING DOCUMENTS

Remember that each place that you apply can have their own set of requirements and do things differently, the following can help you.

To be approved for a Residencia Temporal/Permanente in many Oficinas de Inmigración, you must have reached retirement age. You can also be retired at an earlier age, but must NOT be working any more, don't say that you still work even as joke, they are very serious about that. An original letter from your previous employer may be necessary, stating that you no longer work, also that you are receiving the monthly amount of at least US\$1500.00.

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If your intent is to work in Mexico, you or your Mexican company sponsor, must apply in Mexico for a different kind of Temporary Residency, one that allows you to work there, but the Menaje de Casa will no longer apply. This working Temporary Residency will have certain restrictions, and can be renewed every year.

The Mexican sponsor, should pay for your working Temporary Residency and give you an excellent full medical insurance from I.M.S.S. – The Mexican Social Security Administration.

OBTAIN A RESIDENCIA TEMPORAL

Certain procedures and documents are standard in most Oficinas de Inmigración such as: Fill out the R.T. form, a valid US. or Canadian passport with at least one year left before it expires, birth certificate, latest 6 months bank statements supplied by the bank but not downloaded from the internet, any stocks, bonds, properties, Social Security checks, etc. can also help you. Letter of no criminal record by your local police, and two-color pictures. The picture size can vary from place to place.

Mexican Consulates in the U.S. can issue the Menaje de Casa.

REQUEST THE MENAJE DE CASA

you will also need 5 Original and complete sets of your item list in Spanish.

Oficinas de Inmigración will most likely not accept photos when something covers your face, such as hair, glasses or hats.

All documents presented must be current, valid and originals, you will also need 2 copies of each. Having originals at hand is a must. The time needed to obtain these documents, will depend on the location.

In Mexico, you must go to the nearest Oficina de Inmigración by your new Mexican home in order to obtain your R.T. or R.P.

The R.T. needs to be renewed the first year, you then can buy several more if you want. Starting the process, a month before it expires at that same local immigration office, is a good idea.

Please note, once your first R.T. has been issued, you only have 6 months to bring a Menaje into Mexico, after that time you have lost your opportunity, and will not be able to ever again bring a Menaje under your name.

Remember that for a Menaje de Casa:

1. R.T. is good only for 6 months of the first year.
2. Approved Menaje de Casa list is good for up to 30 days from issued.

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Benefits of a Temporary Residency: if you have brought a vehicle into Mexico, that vehicle can legally stay in the country, for as long as your R.T. stays current.

Once you renew your R.T., fill the vehicle Customs form, go to the nearest Mexican Customs office and get your yearly renewed vehicle permit sticker from them to stay current and legal.

You can also own property, Mexican vehicles, and have government medical insurance called Seguro Social Voluntario or I.M.S.S.

MOVING PAPERWORK COST:

Menaje de Casa is about US\$127, for the one original, and 4 copies stamped and approved by the Consulate.

With a Residencia Permanente, you could not get a Menaje before, in certain Consulates you now can. Also, with a R.P. legally you cannot own/drive a U.S. vehicle within Mexico, since you have changed your immigration status from Visitante Rentista or no inmigrado to inmigrado, in Mexico you are now a Mexican Citizen.

Mexican citizens that lived in the U.S. can also get a Menaje de Casa and bring their belongings into Mexico. Can be given as single or head of family, and only one per family.

They must make the request in person, at the nearest Mexican Consulate from where they live. Fill out the solicitud de visado de Menaje de Casa, they will need several of the following: Mexican birth certificate, Mexican passport with at least one year before expiration, U.S. visa, tarjeta de residencia permanente, cartilla militar, credencial de elector, proof of living in the U.S.A. for at least two years, such as: letters and payment stubs from work, income tax payments, house payments or apartment rental receipts, phone, water, cable, electricity receipts in their name. All originals, and up to 5 copies of each document, depending of the Consulate.

If student, will be required proof of living in the United States for at least one year, and the school records or scholarships.

The complete list must be in Spanish, is similar as described for people using the R. T., but without the promise to return the contents of the list to the U.S.

Besides the furniture and personal belongings, they are allowed to also bring basic scientific instruments, tools, or things required to perform their trade or profession.

Once the family has entered Mexico, they have up to six months to bring in the Menaje.

The permit and Lista de Menaje will come in one document of 6 pages or more, depending on the amount contained in the list.

Cost is about US\$95 and can usually be obtain by the next business day.

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Menajes de Casa cannot include boats, cars or motorized vehicles, nothing new, food, drinks, and only what is proportional to that family in particular. No complete laboratory instruments, for medical offices, or shop equipment.

A Menaje de Casa, requires that all items in your list are 6 months old or older.

MOVING BACK TO THE U.S.A., TO THE NOGALES BORDER

You will need a Customs Broker to process the following documents: copies of your original and current U.S. passport (picture page) and your R.T. (picture page and latest Mexican Visa extension or Prorroga). Original and copies of bank, water, electrical, phone, rental or property taxes, cable bills all in your name, showing your Mexican address.

You will also need the original Pedimento Aduanal, Menaje de Casa list when you enter Mexico, and complete list of items that you will be bringing into the U.S.A. in both Spanish and English. A notarized letter or a Carta Poder that allows me to transport your goods in Mexico and the United States, also stating that I will represent you in all moving matters. There is an English form that must be filled out for the U.S. Customs, I take care of that before the crossing.

Do not bring guns, narcotics or anything illegal into the United States, or U.S. Customs can penalize and/or seize your Menaje.

It is best to contact US. Customs to find out what you can and cannot bring into the U.S.A.

The safe packing of your goods to travel both Countries, the accuracy of your list and Semi contents is entirely your responsibility.

When going back to the U.S.A. and without the Mexican Customs Federal numbered seal, any Mexican officer or Army can check the contents of the Semi, going thru your things and creating delays on delivery.

Full payment must be done before crossing into the U.S.A.

MAKING THE LIST OR LISTA DE MENAJE

You must get the particulars from the Mex. Consulate that you will be dealing with, but the following may help: many download examples can be found over the internet, you will see how other people did their own list.

There is no exact formula on making this list for all Consulates since each has their own way.

Some may ask for the list to be in both languages, separate your electronics, do it by categories, or even put prices on each item. At most borders, Mexican Customs will honor the approved list from any Mex. Consulate, but not necessary all the contents. Mex. Consulates tend to approve most anything, but Customs have Federal laws that they must obey. They are two official and

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separate government departments, and do not necessarily have to agree entirely with each other.

Word format works well, translate all the typed list into Spanish, write the date and location, politely request your Lista de Menaje to the Consulate with the active Consul's name, put your name as it appears in your passport, use both addresses where you live and where you will be living in Mexico. List your items starting from #1, #2, #3 and so on, in sequence, do not jump numbers, do not leave spaces in between numbers/lines, or group them in categories. Simply write them from a lower to a higher number, in order.

The list and your items must correspond with each other. With each number, describe in your list the contents of boxes, plastic containers, bags, furniture, and personal belongings.

Certain boxes that contain clothing, arts and crafts, X-mas or Halloween decorations do not need a full description.

Electronics are whatever plugs into a wall, such as personal or household items, and small power tools. You must write the article's name, brand, size, model and serial numbers.

On televisions include if it is regular, LCD or Plasma.

With refrigerators also include their cubic size.

Some Consulates will ask for you to give all specifics but only for the larger electric appliances.

When you have bikes, write a brief description such as: brand, color, adult or child, and wheel size.

For furniture such as chairs, tables, dressers, write the color, if they are made of wood, metal or some other material. On sets such as diner room table, the table and all chairs can share the same number. Same goes on beds, the mattress, box spring, headboard and such, all belong to the same set, all parts can share the same list number. It is best to describe well your Menaje, this helps to avoid trouble.

At the bottom of the last item, put in a line that crosses the page, so no other item can be added. Once a list has been approved, no other item can legally be added to either the list or truck. Write that you understand that this Menaje is temporary, and promise to return the contents of this complete list to your Country in the case that you return there to live, then sign all 5 sets.

After they approve and seal the Menaje list, they will keep one, and give you 4 sets back. Remember that each Mex. Consulate may have their own way of doing things.

For a Menaje, everything that you list and bring into Mexico must be at least 6 months old or older.

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PACKING TIPS

For packing protection and depending on the article, you can use: paper, plastic, cardboard, bubble-wrap, foam, wood, blankets, pillows, towels, and clothing.

Full boxes can be used in different sizes, and weight, thinking that one or two persons can lift them safely, and fit them thru doors, windows and hallways.

Protect very well, mark in several sides with a tick marker or tags their list number and location of the house where that specific article belongs. Tape well and shut regular boxes, plastic containers, bags, furniture or loose items. Boxes are easier to pack, and do not waste much space in a truck compared to tables, chairs or odd shaped furniture.

Always fill boxes to the top, do not allow empty spaces, or they will be crushed down with other boxes or articles.

Highlight and separate your fragile boxes, pack them on top of regular heavier ones. Do not set hard, pointy or heavy items on top of fragile ones.

Furniture, electronics and glass require extra packing protection and care. Refrigerators and TV's should stand upright, do not lay them down. Once delivered, refrigerators should not be turned on for 24hrs.

Special wood or cardboard frames may be needed for large paintings, mirrors, furniture or TV's.

You can mix items in one same box or container, and use your own pillows, blankets or clothing to protect small electronics, or fragile items. It is not necessary to number each item inside a box, just number the box, and describe the entire box contents on your Menaje list.

Try and fasten your packed goods inside the truck, to avoid movement and load shifting on the road.

Make sure that the trucks door is closed properly to avoid rain water and damage of your goods, and get a good quality pad lock.

Proper packing of your belongings is extremely important, especially for international moving. Do not crate your things or have them in large, and heavy sealed containers (as they come from Canada), since they must be available for possible inspection by Mexican Customs or Army.

Make sure that whatever material you decide to use for protection, is fasten, secured and attach with each item.

I do not pack, supply blankets or any other type of protection for your Menaje.

I very carefully only load, unload and legally transport goods from U.S.A-Mexico-U.S.A.

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In Mexico on certain roads, and after raining season, will not be as smooth as you may be used to. There is lots of topes, road vibrators, and potholes in some areas, that is why the importance of well-done packing job.

The safe and proper packing of your belongings to travel both Countries is entirely your responsibility.

RENTAL TRUCKS

Rental trucks can be necessary to bring your household belongings from anywhere in the U.S.A. to the Nogales, Az. border, such as: U Haul, Penske, or Budget are commonly used, they come in several sizes, but their largest is a 26ft. Penske and Budget have full size boxes and give you more space compared to the 26ft. U Haul, that is a bit smaller due to their attic over the cabin.

When renting those trucks insist in getting the ones that run on regular gasoline instead of diesel. On recent models, they will not only save you money on the cost of fuel, but will also do better when passing other vehicles or going over hills. Often trucks will have governors on the gas pedal, hopefully you get one that can travel 60 miles per hour or more. Slow or poor performing trucks can make a big difference if you have a long drive ahead of you. It is best to check and see if the head/brake lights, turn signals, windshield wipers, heater and air conditioner work, before you take the truck.

Renting moving blankets is unnecessary, since you have already properly packed your goods. Those rental blankets are not for sale.

Two near full 26ft. rental trucks could fit into a 48ft. trailer, if its well packed.

When traveling with several vehicles a GPS, cell phones and walkie talkies are good to have.

Please note, before reserving a Motel during a travel, make sure that they can accommodate your large moving truck, trucks or trailer in their parking lot. Often Motels do not have the space.

At the end of your trip, If you are to return your truck/trucks with a full tank, remember that when the gas nozzle shuts off, pull back a little and continue filling the tank. See when the tank really is full, before you shut off the gas pump. If you do not fill it all the way up, you will be charge for it.

There is several U Hauls drop off places in Nogales, Az. For Penske or Budget, the best truck return place is Tucson, not Sierra Vista.

Rental trucks such as U Haul, Penske, Budget and others cannot cross into Mexico, they are unloaded in the U.S. side and loaded into a Mexican Semi, the truck that will deliver your load in Mexico.

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DRIVING YOUR GOODS SOUTH, U.S.A. TO MEXICO

From your US. home to the Nogales, AZ. border, the US. rental truck can be driven by you or I can do it for you. If I drive it, simply have it all loaded and ready, include me as the driver in the truck rental contract and have a good padlock to secure the contents. Pay my daily fee of \$300U.S. and all my expenses such as taxi to the airport, flight (From Tucson AZ. or Los Angeles, Ca. to your home town) hotel and food.

I can find transportation from your hometown airport to your moving truck. You will also need to pay the trucks insurance, road tolls if any, and fuel.

Note: The daily fee and travel expenses start the day that I arrive at your home town and ends when I arrive in Nogales/Phoenix, AZ., or Los Angeles, Ca. Will let you know witch location or airport in advance.

How much are my daily expenses? \$300US. witch includes my fee, motel and food.

Other expenses such as flights, taxis, road tolls, and fuel for the moving truck have variables and depend on each specific situation.

DRIVING YOUR GOODS NORTH, MEXICO TO THE U.S.A.

From the Nogales, Az. border to your home/storage facility- I can unload the Mexican Semi, pick up and load your rental truck in Nogales, then drive your goods to anywhere in the U.S., or unload to a storage facility or to a rental truck in Nogales AZ. for you to drive it. If you want me to drive the U.S. rental truck, please have the rental truck with insurance included, paid by you and ready for pick up, also include me in the contract as the driver and a good padlock to secure the contents.

The charges are: taxi in Nogales to get your rental truck, my daily fee of \$300U.S., truck rental, gas, road tolls if any.

Return flight from your home town to either Phoenix, AZ. or Los Angeles, Ca., taxi in your home town to airport, taxi from the Phoenix or LAX airport to hotel. The taxi to the airport and the return flight to Mazatlán I pay.

Note: The daily fee and travel expenses start the day that I arrive in Nogales, AZ. until the day that I fly back to Phoenix, AZ. or Los Angeles, Ca. I will let you know which airport in advance.

How much are my daily expenses? US\$300. That covers my fee, motel and food.

Other expenses such as flights, taxis, road tolls, and fuel for the moving truck have variables and depend on each specific situation.

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Most of the Mexican Semi trucks that we use, have air suspension for a smoother ride and protection of your household goods.

Mexican truckers with the 48ft. Semis, can only legally enter U.S. border towns, they are not allowed any further.

Insurance for your goods can be arranged by several Mexican insurance agents, and purchased from anywhere in Mexico. The moving insurance is called en tránsito (in transit) Information can be found over the internet, many agents are bilingual, the policy is not expensive to buy. Insurance can be done when using commercial enclosed vehicles.

There will be certain restrictions, so please ask the insurance agent to explain the terms and conditions of the policy.

Storage facility, there are several in Nogales, AZ.

Town & Country U-Store-It (520) 281-2080, 2085 N. Grand Ave. Located near Motel 6. U Haul truck rentals, older facility with regular office hrs. and gates it when closed.

Self-Storage (520) 761-4400, 1200 W. Mariposa Rd. Located on the road to the Commercial border. Newer installations, equipped video surveillance, and can be entered 24hrs. with a digital code.

If you have a very amount of household items that you wish to bring into Mexico or the U.S.A. getting a Residente Temporal/Permanente, Menaje de Casa, or a Customs broker will not be necessary. Simply set the moving date, make your item list, number each separate item, bag or box, and write a dollar value to your items new (show receipts) or used with a believable price.

- **The list** needs to be typed (not hand written) in Excel, Word or other forms, with each item's number, *prices, and a brief description in both languages Spanish and English.
- **Each item** needs a well-marked number that corresponds exactly with your list.
- Note- The items that I am transporting for you, should be your own personal belongings. If they are for house improvement, electronics or other repetitive articles for sale in the U.S.A./Mexico they must be declared with U.S. or Mexican Customs.
- **You must be a U.S. citizen, if your things are entering the U.S.**

***Prices on your list are necessary, only when entering Mexico**, unless you are importing goods into the U.S.

MEXICAN CUSTOMS

When bringing items from the United States without an approved Menaje, Mexican Customs will charge 16% tax for things made in the U.S., Mexico or Canada, when those items are made somewhere else, the taxes can more than double. The total and full importation amount paid is up to that officer in particular.

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When crossing, it is not necessary for you to be present at the border.

Required documents: color copies of passport (only the cover, picture page and Visa section) if you have an Residente Temporal or Permanente, U.S. driver's license and a notarized letter from your nearest U.S. Consular services or Notario Público, that allows me to transport your things and to represent you in all crossing matters.

DHL shipping/tracking number is necessary when sending me the paperwork, to and from addresses with all phone numbers, in case some official needs to contact you and verify the information.

For pickup and delivery: name of contact persons, both home phone/cellular numbers and addresses are necessary, as well as any other relevant information.

Arrange ahead of time, for easy access to your things.

Have everything numbered, in your list and well packed. If something needs to be taken apart/protected, have it all ready prior to the pick up or passenger Van loading date.

I can transport your personal belongings to either Country as long as they can all fit in one regular Pickup truck (double cabin) and bed. or a rental passenger Van and you are not bringing narcotics, guns, alcohol or anything illegal.

This are exclusive trips, and can be done at any time.

I personally pick up, transport and deliver your goods.

Both the pickup truck (mine) or Van rental start and return to Mazatlán, Sin. at the end of the trip.

What does the quote include: pickup truck or van rental, full vehicle insurance for both Countries, gas, tolls, food, motel, personalized pick up, delivery, and my service charges.

The quote will not include: Customs duties for importing your things.

Quotes are good for 60 days.

You must make your things accessible for quick and easy pickup and delivery.

Prices are in U.S. dollars.

I will give you an example, let's say from Mazatlán, Sin.-Nogales, AZ.-Mazatlán, Sin., it will take a total of 4 days.

Approximate total US\$3100.00 US. For other cities, please call for a quote.

Please note, the prices above are only an approximate, since often rates and prices do increase on pickup truck or van rentals, gas, road tolls, motel, etc.

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Loading/unloading to or from a second floor is another \$50US. Additional floors will increase the cost, depending on difficulty.

When going North from Mexico to the U.S. border, there is several Police, Army and Customs check points that will inspect your things, opening bags and boxes looking for narcotics and stolen vehicles. Going South some check points look for weapons and legal entry of your goods. In either case the time for inspection and how hard they look for things is up to the officer.

The safe packing of your goods to travel both Countries and the accuracy of your list and rental van contents is entirely your responsibility.

I will not be responsible for your belongings or the vehicle in case of being hijacked on the road.

We do not accept merchandise, trades, cheques, money orders, credit cards, as a form of payment.

We do accept cash U.S., or its equivalent in Mexican Pesos, and direct deposits into my U.S. bank account.

I charge per job and full payment is required prior to the trip.

MORE THAN ONE MENAJE PER SEMI/TRIP

If you have a partial load, say a one- or two-bedroom amount, and do not need/want an entire Semi for yourself, and you would like to save money, you can post on: mazinfo at Yahoo groups, www.maztravel.com, or any other forum from other Mexican cities, your desire to share a Semi and cost of it with some else interested in moving to Mexico, or back to the U.S.A.

It will be more economical by sharing the Semi, my fee and travel expenses with one or two other persons, as long as the convened total load, can all fit safely in one 48ft. trailer.

What expenses do you share with others?

- a. The total cost for the 48ft. Semi from Nogales, Arizona to its final delivery destination in Mexico, or vice versa when moving back to the U.S.A.
- b. My travel expenses, such as: Flights to the U.S. and back to Mexico, taxis to/from airports and at the border, car rental with fuel and insurance, hotel, and food during a Menaje.

Both of the above, the Semi-trailer, moving fees and travel expenses will be included on the moving quote that I send you as a regular one family single Menaje.

Each person bringing a Menaje, will need to have their own approved and current moving original documents in their name such as Residente Temporal or Permanente, Lista de Menaje, U.S. or Canadian passport, all with two sets of copies.

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If you are moving back to the U.S.A. please read above.

Moving back to the U.S.A., and have all the documentation that you will require.

If you are moving to Mexico or back to the U.S. the price for a normal Menaje is different from when you share with others, it is not the same amount of work and time needed for one client as it is for several. It also generates expenses for each additional client and its own Menaje that you include in the Semi.

When you have a regular Menaje quote, it includes the exclusive use of one 48ft. Semi-trailer for one family or client, help at the Mexican Consulate for one, Customs broker for one, Loaders in Nogales, Az. for one, crossing fees for one, delivery for one, and my daily fees for one client. From that point on, when you share the Semi-trailer, each additional person that you are sharing with, will pay for not only for their own moving documents such as the Menaje de Casa is \$127US. paid to the Mexican Consulate.

Who you are sharing with, also need to pay for the additional time required to help with that other one or two extra Menajes, their own Customs broker, loading of their things from the U.S. rental moving truck or storage facility into the semi, load separation, and more crossing fees. All of this is included on the prices below.

Prices:

1. When you share with one other person the cost is: regular one family Menaje quote plus US\$1700.
2. When you share with two other persons the cost is: regular one family Menaje quote plus US\$3400.

Please note, you find and choose who and how many you are sharing with, you make the arrangements, figure out the required load space for each Menaje, determine the exact moving date, and the monetary amount agreed is between you and the other parties.

The price for loading or unloading the Semi, your storage place, rental moving truck in the U.S.A. or into your new place in Mexico depends on the amount and its difficulty to complete.

It is very important that you and the other parties have all their moving original documentation ready and in order on the agreed time and date. Everything that is being moved must be there in time, available and in one same location.

To avoid Customs seizing your Menajes, no one should bring illegal items, things that are not in your list or do not belong in a Menaje, because it will cause problems, time delays and more expenses for everyone else.

If someone is missing documents, or do not have their belongings ready and present with full access to the location for loading or unloading the semi-trailer on the agreed moving date, it will not only delay everybody's move, but also increase the moving cost. If this occurs each party will

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be charge for the additional time needed for those extra traveling expenses (hotel, food and car rental) and my daily fee. If a certain party is not present, with full access to the final delivery location on the agreed delivery date, only that party will pay my \$300US. that includes daily fee, hotel and food and a \$100US. per day, driver's compensation for lost time.

Please read bellow what a quote includes or does not include.

First payment is necessary one month before pick up. Final payment is done as the semi-trailer enters the city of delivery and prior of unloading. I charge per job.

CUSTOMS BROKERS

1. **You have an R.T. or R. P., Menaje de Casa** and want to cross the border with your house contents and live in Mexico.
2. **For Mexican citizens**, families or students returning to Mexico with their goods.
3. **When you are returning to live** in the United States or Canada and bringing back the Menaje.
4. **Want to full import** a vehicle, larger amounts of new or used: furniture, power tools, electronics, appliances or merchandise.

WAYS TO SAVE MONEY

Make your moving deposit one month prior to your moving date, list and pack very well your belongings on your own, choose the rental truck size that you will need, compare prices, then rent and load your own moving truck. If you need and extra truck or to pull a trailer do it at the same rental place, so you will get a discount, drive the rental truck or trucks to the Nogales border. Depending on convenience and economy, you can also use a U.S. mover to load and deliver at the border.

Be ready with all the necessary original legal documents and on time when loading or transferring your Menaje into the Mexican Semi trailer.

If you wish, you may share the 48ft. semi-truck with someone else, be present, ready, have possession, with all required permits and full access of your new place in Mexico. Get your own loaders in Mexico/U.S.A., and do your own unpacking and furniture assembly.

Most international moving companies give an impersonal service, may or may not have all international information at hand, or the ability to answer your questions on the spot. Will tell you, that you must use the Laredo, Texas border (Largest Latin America border) for crossing, taking them 3-8 weeks or longer to deliver.

Most movers will also charge you more for odd shape items, or by weight.

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Others are concern on how many cubic feet of goods you have, since they are limited in space by using from 20' to 26' moving trucks. They are not able to handle entire households or complete Menajes. Where you able to find positive moving testimonials that checked out about their company?

Consider the following: you may need to sacrifice your belongings by having to get rid of some, due to the limited moving truck space. Paying full price for only half the load capacity. When you are quoted, they will charge you another 16% to 32% (IVA or importation taxes charged for articles from other Countries) importation fees on any new item that you have. if required at the border, the mover will not be there in person, to assist and help you, just the load driver. They cannot guarantee delivery on a specific date, at best it is only tentative, since their delivery date is not binding.

Outside the quote, you may also have other hidden charges or extra fees for events that they were not plan ahead of time due to lack of experience, or from things that were not explain when the original deal took place.

Please note, if for some reason the mover has a problem at the border, the moving quote will no longer be honored, your things will be held by Mexican Customs and you will be re negotiating for more money in order to recover your belongings.

Knowledge and doing things right, saves you money.

HOW DOES MOVINGTOMEXICOGUY DO MENAJES

We only use the Nogales AZ, border, it's by far the best one for Menajes de Casa in terms of ease and time required. Unlike the regular border, the Nogales, Sonora truck Commercial border, recinto/modulo fiscal or 14K, is usually open Monday thru Friday from 8:00a.m. to 8:00p.m., Saturday from 8:00a.m. to 2:00p.m., closed on Sundays and certain holly days. The wider road South does not have many curves, it is more of a straight shot. About 722 Miles from Nogales to Mazatlán on the Cuota 15 road, a double lane on each direction, a much safer drive.

I do not sit behind a desk, sending others to do your move, then passing on the job from one person to another. I travel to where ever your belongings are, I inform you about the entire move, answer your questions before and during the move, I am present and physically available in both Countries with your things. I can be reached by cell phone 24hrs. during the entire moving process. You deal with the same person that knows what is going on from start to end. I spend so much time at the border, that I keep current with all crossing matters, this way we avoid problems, that could increment delays and cost.

We deliver quickly, for example: if I arrive in Nogales, AZ. on a Monday evening, I would have the prepared Menaje list in Spanish if needed. Tuesday I can take care of the paperwork, if you do not have them (If so, it will take an extra day), I go to the Consulate with you and get them approved, I do the unloading from the US. rental truck or trucks and load the Mexican Semi, deal

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with the Customs broker then cross the border with your Menaje. By Wednesday your things arrive safely in Mazatlán, and all unloaded into your new place. Please look for testimonials on MovingToMexicoGuy or Moving To Mexico Guy over the internet.

We do not punish you and charge you more for big or odd shaped items or load weight.

With a 48ft. trailer, we can transport up to 10 tons. of weight.

It does not matter how much or little you have, the Semi will be the same, reasonable price, and you will have lots of available room. There is no doubt on the delivery date, you will know ahead of time, and before the move even takes place. I charge per job one price, no hidden fees on small print, or other charges.

The delivery date and quote is firm: as long as your list matches the trailer contents, your items are over 6 months old, you are not transporting contraband, firearms, drugs, things that do not belong in a Menaje or anything illegal.

Do not assume, it is always best to ask questions, some will save you time, money, and very importantly avoids misunderstandings.

International moves are very different from domestic ones.

Do you need to be present at the border for the crossing? No.

Once you have sent the moving deposit, I have possession of your goods, 2 copies of your passport and R.T. or R. P., as well as 4 Original sets of your approved Menaje de Casa, I can take care of the entire moving process. I only see you were ever we meet in the U.S. to get or receive what is needed for the move, and again when I deliver your belongings, at your new Mexican home.

Mexican Customs inspection, If all documents are ready, and the Semi is loaded, it will usually take two hours to clear the Customs check point, and be free to travel with the sealed 48ft. box and final Federal numbered lock.

The information on both, the inspected Customs Pedimento and the final Federal aluminum lock must match and be proof of the trailer's integrity.

In main land most authorities will respect this Customs lock, for free travel until it reaches its final destination, and the client can verify the serial number/letters and witnesses the breaking of the lock.

The **Customs Pedimento** is the Menaje most important document. It contains your information, showing the date/times that Customs inspected your things and proves that the Menaje enter the country legally.

If you do not have it, your things can be considered contraband.

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Express delivery time - If I have possession of your goods at the Nogales, Az. border and you either give me the necessary moving documents, or you are present and I help you get the Menaje de Casa at the Nogales Consulate.

I can have your things in Mazatlán in 2 days, Puerto Vallarta or Guadalajara in 3 days. Once the Semi has cleared the Customs check point, it will take about 24hrs. to arrive in Mazatlán, 34hrs. to Puerto Vallarta, and 38hrs. to Guadalajara, sometimes it will show up even sooner.

Going North, taking a Menaje back to the U.S.A. will take longer to arrive at the border, because the Semi will have to be inspected at several check points, and depending on commercial traffic, road delays and U.S. Customs can make it vary.

For delivery, Semis require that roads leading to your new home are accessible to them.

Local city laws may not allow them to enter or you could require a traffic permit, narrow streets, not enough space to turn, park or to maneuver, certain dirt rural or in bad shape roads, rocks, broken bridges, over hanging trees or cables will not allow a Semi to park near your place.

Often, the use of a smaller moving truck may be necessary, to deliver in several trips from where the Semi is parked to your home, and usually they charge per trip. The use of this smaller trucks will increase your unloading cost, due to the extra work and time involved.

We must have full access to your belongings, a responsible person must be present on location at the agreed date and time, when picking up or delivering your Menaje.

Once we both agree on a moving date and time, you must be present at our prearranged meeting place, have your belongings available and all properly packed, be ready and have all your original documents that are necessary for moving to Mexico.

When parking the Semi, you may need permission from your neighbors to block their driveways, or a permit ready from your complex to allow entrance of the Semi.

Do not bring illegal items into Mexico, things that do not belong or are not permitted in a Menaje de Casa.

How the truck and things get loaded, who I choose as workers, and the number of persons that load or unload your goods is my decision.

Once you have sent me your complete list, and I have quoted you, do not add any thing else to that list or to the Semi.

I am not responsible for what could be found by Customs, Army, or at other check points with what is inside your boxes, what electronics you have and other goods contained in the Semi, nor for damage of your belongings.

Remember that you are responsible for the safe and proper packing of your entire Menaje.

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Please note, I do not unload at Condos, tall buildings or Complexes higher than a second floor.

I can arrange for loaders and a smaller truck if necessary, to do the job at no extra charge to you. But you would be responsible for the access or permit to enter your place, permission to unload, possible damage to the location, payment for the small truck if needed, loaders and their previously agreed payment, you also need to supply drinking water for them.

The unloading to more than two floors is no longer my duty or responsibility.

Pets, if you are driving South and using the Nogales border, you will not be required the dog/cat vaccination record or health certificate by the Mexican authorities. Often Mexican hotels or motels will not accept pets. Here is a link to find pet friendly places to stay: <http://gringodog.home.comcast.net/~gringodog/pet-friendly.htm>

Most No-Tell or Adult motels, will also allow pets, and usually are located before you enter or exit a town or city. They have private and secure parking.

In Mexico and for importation purposes, they only consider as pets, dogs and cats.

To import pets into Mexico, you must meet the requirements of the National Department of Health, Food Safety and Food Quality, SENASICA. The pet will be screened at the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Offices (OISA) located at international airports, border crossings and international seaports.

The requirements are listed on the following websites:

<http://www.senasica.gob.mx/default.asp?Idioma=2&id=623>

<http://www.senasica.gob.mx/default.asp?Idioma=2&id=3691>

For more information, about the plant and animal health inspection service, email: contacto@senasica.gob.mx

When driving your vehicle into Mexico,

If possible, exchange money prior to crossing the border, and have it at hand. The best currency to pay with when traveling in Mexico is Pesos.

Driving or not, the single owner of the vehicle, trailer, bikes and/or jet skis must be present to apply for the Customs permit, there with the vehicle/trailer/bikes/jet skis when traveling in Mexico, or while being towed on the main roads from one city to another.

For the vehicle permit, you will require: a passport with at least one year left, FMT visa or R.T., valid driver license and credit card.

For your vehicle: title in your name, registration, U.S.A. proof of insurance, valid license plates and tags all up to date.

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If you are leasing or are still making car payments a written permit from the lease or finance company allowing you to bring that vehicle into Mexico, will be necessary.

When pulling a trailer with motorcycles or jet ski's, you will also need: title, registration, proof of insurance from where they came from, with tags, and license plates for bikes and trailer, everything current.

Every personal or vehicle document must be in your name, original, current, and with a set of copies.

Only one person's name will show on the temporary importation permit, and only one vehicle per person is allowed. Having a regular tourist Visa or R.T. determines how long legally can a vehicle stay in Mexico.

Vehicle payments to Aduana through Banejercito can be done in person at the border or ahead of time over the internet at:
https://www.banjercito.com.mx/iitv/sitio/html/cte_cst_infoitv_ing.php or
<http://www.bajabound.com/before/permits/vehicle.php>.

Using a credit card, the cost is US\$44+ IVA (16% tax)

\$400- 2004 or newer models.

\$300- 1998-2003

\$200- 1998 or older models, all in U.S.

Once in Mexico, legally only the owner of the vehicle, wife or immediate family can drive it. Having in the vehicle, for the spouse a marriage certificate, or for the father/daughter a birth certificate with ID as proof should work. To avoid serious problems with Aduana, do not loan your vehicle while in Mexico to anyone else, Mexican, U.S. or citizens of other countries, unless you are inside the vehicle with them.

Mexican car insurance is not required, but a good idea to have. It can be sold for short periods or by the year, covering certain states in Mexico, or the entire country.

Paying in Pesos at gas (Pemex) stations is best, often their US. exchange rates are not good or they may not even take U.S. currency.

There are 3 types of fuel, and all pumps are green: Diesel (black label) is the most economical fuel, Magna (green label with 87 octanes) regular unleaded, and Premium (red label with 92 octanes) the best unleaded gasoline.

Pemex is government owned; prices are the similar all over the country, more in Baja, but near the border it will cost a little less, due to tax.

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Having Mexican coins in your car or pocket is a good idea, so its at hand when you tip a gas attendant for checking your car tire pressure or cleaning the windshield.

Some gas stations will charge peso coins in order to use their bathrooms.

At tolls or caminos de cuota, they will charge for your vehicle, for your trailer and for each additional axle. When you pay a cuota, it gives you auto and personal insurance from one cuota both to the next, as long as you respect the speed limit and traffic laws. Besides more Highway police or Federales de Camino/Guardia Nacional on these roads, you may see well marked free road emergency phones.

Since September 2010 Cuota roads will not accept US. dollars. In certain Cuota roads, such as from the South side Mazatlán to Tepic, you will not find gas stations. Cuota roads are by far, the best way to go.

By where you pay at the Cuota booth's, you will find the most secure and cleanest rest rooms. Others can be found in certain or newer Pemex gas stations. Have your own toilet paper, just in case.