

How to Pick a Good Self-Storage Facility

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We all tend to move more frequently than in the past, new jobs, economy, divorce and other reasons. Whether you own your home or rent, you may well need somewhere to temporarily store your personal belongings, you probably need a good self-storage facility. After you have located some self-storage facilities there are a few things to consider to pick the right one for you.

Check the security of the facility, gates, locks, cameras. Find out if the facility has cameras that have night vision, just think when do most burglaries take place? Look and ask about the lighting of the facility, in fact, drive by at night to see for yourself. Avoid locations or units with shrubbery or low visibility that might appeal to criminals.

Location, Location, Location, find a facility that is close and convenient. If the facility is far away, it's going to cost you in time and travel expenses. Factor that in when considering overall costs.

Look for flexible hours of operation. Ask what hours and days of the week you will have access to your storage unit. Check whether you'll be able to access your unit with a moving van or other large vehicle. Some facilities are only open 8 – 5, which is not very customer friendly.

Consider unit size and pricing. Ask for a pricing chart, and then find out what the unit size will typically fit and if the facility has the size you need. Be SURE to ask about any special offers for long-term storage or first-month reductions.

Read all documentation closely. Double-check costs, fees, conditions and terms of the agreement. Ask what insurance options are available for damage and theft.

Check the reputation of the facility. The Better Business Bureau maintains records of filed complaints, and your local chamber of commerce can give references.