



ESTIMATING 3PL STORAGE COSTS

Ask the following questions of the 3PLs you are reviewing to ensure that you are estimating storage costs accurately and choosing the provider with the best storage options for your business.

- Do you charge for storage by pallet, cubic foot, bin/pick location, or something else?
- What are the standard pallet dimensions?
- Do you have “oversize rules“ for pallets that don’t fit?
- What about half-pallets or pallets that are not completely full?
- How is storage measured - by daily average, month-end snapshot, or something else?
- Do you have long-term storage or aging tiers?
- What are the exact rates and when does aging begin?
- When and how is the customer notified that an age surcharge has been incurred?
- Is there a minimum monthly storage amount needed to stay active? Is this minimum for storage only, or does it include other fulfillment services/activities?
- Do forward pick locations cost more than pallet storage? If yes, how is this determined and managed in your warehouse?
- Is there a seasonal or “peak time” storage surcharge? When does it apply?
- Are there extra fees for climate control, security/cages, or insurance?
- Can SKUs be re-classified into different storage types? If yes, who decides this and what triggers it?
- Do you receive a storage report that ties to the invoice?
- Can you provide a sample invoice showing the exact storage line-item names?