

HOME PLACEMENT:

Home delivery and placement are a very important part of the project and homeowner's experience.

Almost all home deliveries require the use of workmen and equipment in addition to the transport truck. The cost of having men and equipment stand by for a home that does not arrive when promised is very expensive and very disappointing to the homeowner. The dealer appears unprofessional when these things happen. If a discount transporter is to be used, I strongly recommend that the home is first delivered to the dealer or local storage facility and then use a well equipped local transporter and placement crew to work together for final delivery and site placement. It will of course cost more initially but will likely prevent a bad placement experience and bad word of mouth advertising if the low cost alternative plan falls apart.

A quality transporter will have an operator with a reputation for getting homes delivered in difficult places with minimal damage. The truck should have a modern 6-way hitch and power mirrors and power mirror bars. You probably will not find this package in a discount long haul transporter so pay the price for the men and equipment needed to do the job right the first time. It is worth the price to have the home placed without damage and professionally handled; this will provide word of mouth referrals and may keep you out of court.



A house cat is designed especially for moving manufactured homes. It can maneuver a home down roads that are just too tight with a truck alone. Another benefit is the house cat can crawl very slowly and is smooth stopping and going. The home arrives to the building site in much less abused condition. In a tight delivery, there is no substitute for a house cat. This machine requires a competent experienced operator.



Sometimes a home section is so heavy that even the house cat needs a dozer to help pull.



This Jade steering axle is extremely valuable for difficult deliveries. It is towed to the site, mounted under the home and provides remote control lift and steering. It even lifts differentially on side hills. Many roads that were once too difficult can now accommodate a home delivery or a larger home. This unit takes about an hour to set up or remove.





The Jade steering unit is being winched to cheat or persuade the home around a tight turn.



A truckload of cribbing is a must on most placement projects. Without an adequate supply, the project will grind to a halt or get dangerous. The crates shown are made of recycled hem fir 2x6 boards used for home close-up braces. The cribbing here is being used to prevent the home from dragging as it is pulled up a driveway or site placed.



The Mobile Lift machine is used to pick up the unit and walk it around a turn in short lifts. It can lean from side to side as needed. It is a fine safety tool to lift the unit and support it while axles are removed and roller beams are installed. On smaller homes, the unit can lift the hitch end walk the entire home around. Care must be taken to not cause

the chassis rails to collapse. This powerful machine can do a great deal of damage in the wrong hands and should only be used by a highly competent very experienced individual.



At times it is necessary to pull the transport truck with a heavy duty 4x4 pick up truck or better. The deep reduction low range in the transfer case will provide good ratios for pulling. Often this makes the difference of getting up a steep driveway or not. Another benefit is that the pick up truck generally doesn't have enough weight and traction to damage the home transport truck as can easily happen with a bulldozer.



This home foundation was left open at the far end so two of three sections can be backed into the foundation instead of rolled over. This method creates additional cost in foundation work but saves on rolling and placement cost. I decide based on which resource has more time available, foundation crew or set crew.

