



Holding vs. Transporting What's the Difference?

65 years of experience has taught us there's a **BIG** difference between a holding cabinet and a transport cart. Remember this **RULE OF THUMB** when choosing a cart.

**You can use a transport cart as a holding cabinet,
but DON'T use a holding cabinet as a transport cart.**



This manufacturer has put a paddle latch and some shelves in their holding cabinet and sells it as a banquet cart. The cabinet retains all the non-durable aspects of the holding cabinet. Adding bumper material to the base is an add-on extra cost.



Carter-Hoffmann takes an entirely different approach when designing transport carts. All-welded turned-in seam construction, with wheel-ahead caster pattern, grip handles and "floating" wrap-around bumper are standard features.

Feature	Holding Cabinet	Transport Cart
Construction	Simple overlap construction with spot welds or rivets. This style of construction is prone to racking and is not able to withstand the rigors of transport. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;"> <p style="text-align: center;">CART TOP</p> <hr style="width: 80%; margin: 0 auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">CART SIDE</p> </div>	All-welded, rigid, turned in seam construction forms an integral rigid frame and makes cart more durable and able to withstand abuse. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;"> <p style="text-align: center;">CART TOP</p> <hr style="width: 80%; margin: 0 auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">CART SIDE</p> </div>
Casters	Light-duty rubber (5" diameter or less).	Heavy-duty polyurethane, semi or fully-pneumatic with sealed roller bearings (5"- 8" in diameter for easier rolling).
Hinges	Edge-mount hinges — prone to becoming mis-aligned quickly in transport applications. Stick out and are prone to damage.	Welded or bolted-on pin hinge with back up reinforcement plates. Flush-mounted to reduce damage.
Latch	Edge-mount or similar — affixed with screws. Transport will loosen the screws and hinges. Sticks out and is prone to damage during transport.	Flush-mounted, often with transport latch as a back-up. Because the latch doesn't stick out past the perimeter of the bumper, it is less prone to damage.
Caster Configuration	Normally affixed to cart in a box pattern which makes it more difficult to roll over uneven surfaces.	Mounted in Wheel-Ahead pattern — the lead wheels are offset slightly, so one caster at a time rolls over thresholds and other uneven surfaces.
Bumper	Bumper channels or corner bumpers screwed to the lower edge of the cabinet or formed as an extension of the base. This type of construction does not absorb impact well and entire cabinet is vulnerable to damage.	"Free-floating" wrap-around bumper is bolted to the base of the cabinet, but is not an extension of the base. The bumper absorbs most of the impact, protecting the integrity of the cabinet.
Handles	Recessed finger grips are often used. Not ergonomic or comfortable when pushing or pulling the cart.	Push handle at each end of the cabinet. Bolted or welded on with back-up plates.