

## Museum Storage Planning



Museum storage is challenging for the sheer variety of items and the special storage requirements for your institution's priceless objects. A museum collection can encompass everything from massive paleontological samples, to taxidermy, to small specimens. Valuable manuscripts, fragile paintings, and on-loan collections may require special security as well.

### Here are some considerations to keep in mind when developing new museum storage systems or renovating existing storage space.

- In conjunction with your designer, architect or Aurora Storage planner, review your overall space plan to ensure adequate storage space for current needs and future expansion. A common recommendation is to add 20% more storage space for new acquisitions.
- Is security important? Does the storage system need selectively locking doors and drawers, or does it require security locks on the system overall?
- Local fire codes often mandate sprinklers. How will the placement of the storage system affect what is being stored under those sprinklers? Example: A powered mobile storage system can integrate into HVAC controls to automatically go into 'fire park' mode should an alarm be activated.
- Consider staff access and activity level desired for the collection. If collections are accessed intermittently rather than on a daily basis, the storage recommendation may vary.
- Your planners will ask you for help with assessing, categorizing and documenting the collection to be stored. You will need to estimate weights and dimensions.
- Dimensions are important because they will determine depth and height of the storage system. Weights are significant to ensure floor loading is not exceeding the building's capacity. This can be verified by your architect or structural engineer.
- Ensure your storage system supplier has eco-friendly product to protect collections, manuscripts and documents from volatile off-gassing which can degrade artifacts.



## Museum Reference & Research Libraries

Researchers, scientists, and students using a museum's library can benefit from a well organized and efficient research center. Aurora Library Shelving can work to reduce the footprint required for book storage while adding space for additional volumes.

## Aurora Storage Products Eco-friendly Museum Storage Solutions



Aurora has many solutions that work for museums whether it's space efficient Times-2™ Cabinets, high-density Aurora Mobile, Art-Stor™, or sturdy Quik-Lok® Shelving. Our design experts can assess existing museum floor space and recommend product to increase storage in the same footprint, often storing 50% more than before.

Aurora Storage Products are eco-friendly with 40% recycled steel content and are finished with Gloss-Tek, a powder coating safe for even the most delicate of museum collections.



## Museum References

- Chemical Heritage Foundation
- Colorado State University, Avenir Museum of Design & Merchandising
- JFK Presidential Library and Museum
- Lincoln Library & Museum
- Museum Amparo, Puebla, Mexico
- Southern Ute Cultural Center
- Smithsonian Institution
- University of Arizona, National Tree Ring Laboratory & Museum

Aurora Storage Products are available on:

