

Online shopping has surged in popularity as carriers report increased deliveries year over year, a trend that is expected to continue into the 2022 peak season. This makes it critical for 3PL businesses to be properly equipped with the vehicles needed to handle the surge in deliveries. Use this checklist and guide as a resource when sourcing your peak season rentals. To ensure a smooth peak season, make sure your provider checks all of your boxes.



Does Your Provider Offer Nationwide Availability?

Working with a local rental agency might seem convenient at first, but if you have issues or need to make a return, you'll be forced into going back to that rental counter. Selecting a provider with a nationwide presence that can deliver vehicles to any part of the country makes it easier when it's time to return vehicles, too.

Will a Maintenance Plan Reduce Costs & Downtime?

Peak season puts thousands of miles and excessive wear and tear on a vehicle. Rent from a provider with maintenance packages to reduce driver downtime and keep out of pocket costs to a minimum for your drivers.

Does Your Rental Provider Know Peak Season?

If a provider truly knows the pain points of last mile delivery, they'll have the vehicles needed to successfully run your route. Some even have cargo vans with installed shelving, saving time on upfits. Vehicles with shelves are usually the first to be rented, so it's always a good idea to secure your vehicles before peak season is underway.

Are You Renting the Right Vehicles for Your Needs?

Peak season is demanding on your drivers and your vehicles. Set yourself up for success by renting the right vehicles for your needs. You shouldn't have to build your route around your provider's inventory or lose money with missed opportunities. Find a rental provider well stocked in cargo vans, pickup trucks, step vans, cutaways, and box trucks.

Are Rent-to-Lease Term Options Available?

Don't pass up contract extensions or missed routes. Make sure your rental agency offers rent-to-lease options so you can keep the vehicles you have and take on any jobs that come your way. We suggest using a provider that will offer lease credit for the months you have paid rent.

What Perks & Programs are Available?

If you opt to rent from a leading last mile rental provider, they can offer perks and programs not available from a franchised rental counter. For instance, Merchants Fleet® offers a vehicle buyback program that allows businesses to unload older and underutilized vehicles. This gets you cash-in-hand fast and allows more room for modern, fuel-efficient vehicles for your last mile delivery routes.

Available Vehicles to Meet Peak Season Delivery Demands



Cargo Vans

- Ford Transit 250 Mid-Roof Cargo Vans
- RAM ProMaster 3500 High Roof Cargo Vans
- Mercedes Sprinter High Roof Cargo Vans



Cutaway Vans

- Chevy Express 3500 SRW 14Ft & 16Ft Cutaways Parcel Vans
- Ford E350 14Ft Cutaway Parcel Vans



Step Vans

- Freightliner P700s & P1000s Step Vans
- Ford P900s & P1000s Step Vans



Box Trucks

- Isuzu NRR 16Ft & 20Ft Box Trucks
- Select Additional Box Truck Models & Sizes Available



Pickup Trucks

- Chevrolet Silverado 1500 & 2500s
- Ford F150s & F250s
- RAM 1500s & 2500s
- Select Midsize Pickups

To Reserve Peak Vehicles, Contact Merchants at **866.653.2737**
or Visit merchantsfleet.com/services/last-mile/