

# Bookcases & Shelving

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Commercial Office Furniture | Nationwide Delivery | Lifetime Warranty



## 1. What Is a Commercial Bookcase?

A bookcase is a freestanding storage unit with open shelves, designed to store books, binders, files, reference materials, display items, and general office supplies. At OfficeFurniture2go, we carry a full range of commercial bookcases designed for the demands of professional environments.

Commercial bookcases are used in private offices, conference rooms, libraries, reception areas, breakrooms, mailrooms, open offices, and storage rooms.

## 2. Types and Sizes

### Width Options

- 30" wide: Smaller offices, supplemental shelving
- 36" wide: Most common commercial width
- 48" wide: Maximum laminate span without center support

### Height Options

Height	Shelves	Best For
36"-42"	2-3	Under-window, room divider, display surface
60"	4-5	General office; no wall anchor typically needed
72"	5-6	Most common commercial; wall anchoring required
84"-96"	6-8	Libraries, law firms; always requires anchoring

Depth: 12" standard (fits binders and books), 15"-16" for deeper items, 18"-24" for supply rooms.

### 3. Shelf Adjustability

Commercial bookcases use a shelf pin system with 1"-2" adjustment increments. Metal shelf pins are strongest and recommended for heavy loads. Adjustable shelves accommodate standard binders, oversized books, banker's boxes, and mixed storage.

Fixed-shelf bookcases are not recommended for commercial environments where storage needs change over time.

## 4. Materials and Construction

**Laminate (TFL):** Most common commercial material. Durable, consistent surface resistant to scratching and moisture. Available in standard finishes to coordinate with office furniture collections.

**Steel Shelving:** 200+ lbs per shelf. Ideal for high-density storage, supply rooms, and industrial settings. Resistant to moisture, mold, and pests.

**Solid Wood / Wood Veneer:** Premium option for executive offices and boardrooms. Veneer over engineered wood core provides stability with the look of solid wood.

**Back Panel:** Full-thickness back panels provide better structural rigidity than thin fiberboard backs.

## 5. Weight Capacity and Shelf Span

Construction	Span	Per-Shelf Rating
Entry-level laminate	30"-36"	30-50 lbs
Commercial laminate	30"-36"	50-75 lbs
Heavy-duty commercial	36"	75-100 lbs
Steel shelving	Varies	150-500 lbs

A 36" shelf of binders holds approximately 15-18 binders (40-45 lbs). A fully loaded 5-shelf commercial bookcase: approximately 200-225 lbs total.

## 6. Safety and Stability

Wall anchoring is required for any bookcase 60" or taller. A fully loaded 72" bookcase can weigh 250–400+ lbs. Anti-tip strap or L-bracket must connect to a wall stud. Required by building codes, OSHA, and BIFMA standards.

- Adjust leveling glides to keep the bookcase plumb on uneven flooring
- Never exceed per-shelf weight rating
- Heaviest items on lowest shelves to keep center of gravity low

## 7. Certifications

- BIFMA (X5.9): Storage product testing — shelf strength, stability, assembly integrity
- GREENGUARD / GREENGUARD Gold: Low VOC emissions for LEED, healthcare, education
- CARB Phase 2: Formaldehyde limits for composite wood — minimum commercial standard

## 8. Open vs. Closed Storage

Open shelving is best for frequently accessed items, display, and budget-conscious storage. Closed storage is best for confidential materials and visually clean environments. Many offices combine both: open upper shelves with closed lower cabinets.

## 9. Common Questions

Can I stack a bookcase on a filing cabinet?

Only if specifically designed for stacking (hutch on lateral file). Never stack freestanding units.

Shelf spacing for binders?

12"–13" accommodates standard binders. Oversized catalogs need 14"–15".

Will it match my other furniture?

Specify from the same manufacturer's collection for the closest finish match.

## 10. Selection Checklist

Determine storage needs: books, binders, boxes, supplies, display

Choose height, width, and depth

Confirm material: laminate, steel, or wood veneer

Verify per-shelf weight capacity

Plan wall anchoring for units 60"+

Verify certifications: BIFMA, GREENGUARD, CARB Phase 2

Consider complementary items: lateral files, storage cabinets, desk pedestals

Order anti-tip wall anchor kits for all tall bookcases

Ready to Find the Right Solution?

Contact [OfficeFurniture2go.com](http://OfficeFurniture2go.com) for expert guidance, nationwide delivery, and our Lifetime Warranty.  
Our team brings 30+ years of experience to help you make the right choice for your workspace.

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