

Cost to Hire an HOA Management Company for a 140-Unit HOA in Spokane, WA

For a 140-unit homeowners association (HOA) in Spokane, WA, the typical cost to hire a professional HOA management company ranges from \$10 to \$20 per unit per month[1][2][3]. This means your monthly management fee would likely fall between \$1,400 and \$2,800. Annually, this equates to \$16,800 to \$33,600.

Additional Fees to Consider

- **Initiation/Onboarding Fees:** These are one-time charges, often ranging from a few thousand dollars up to \$30,000, depending on the size and needs of your HOA[11][3][2].
- **Extra Service Fees:** Services outside the standard contract (e.g., special projects, legal consultations, or large-scale maintenance) may incur additional charges[1][4].
- **Exit Fees:** If you terminate the contract, there may be a fee for transitioning your HOA's records and responsibilities[4][3].

Regional Variations

While the \$10–\$20 per unit range is a national average, some markets—especially in higher-cost regions—may see rates up to \$50 per unit per month, but Spokane is generally closer to the national average^[4]. Larger HOAs like yours may also be able to negotiate a lower per-unit rate due to economies of scale^{[1][3]}.

Is Hiring an HOA Management Company Worth It?

Benefits

- **Expertise and Experience:** Management companies bring industry knowledge, legal compliance, and professional financial management—services that are difficult for volunteer boards to match [5][6][7].
- **Time and Stress Savings:** Outsourcing day-to-day operations, maintenance, accounting, and resident communications frees up board members to focus on higher-level decisions and reduces burnout[5][8][9][10].

- **Vendor and Maintenance Management:** Professional managers have established relationships with reliable vendors, ensuring quality service and competitive pricing for maintenance and repairs [6][10].
- **Consistency and Neutrality:** A third-party manager enforces rules fairly and consistently, reducing internal conflicts and potential legal risks[6][7].
- **Enhanced Community Appeal:** Proper management helps maintain property values and community standards, which benefits all residents^[10].

Drawbacks

- **Cost:** The management fee is a significant line item and may require raising dues or cutting other expenses[1][9][4].
- **Potential for Extra Fees:** Some companies charge for services not included in the base contract, so it's important to review agreements carefully and budget for possible add-ons[1][4].
- **Transition Challenges:** Switching to or between management companies can result in temporary disruptions or missed tasks during the transition period[11].

When Is It Worth It?

For a 140-unit HOA, hiring a management company is generally considered worthwhile, especially if:

- The board lacks the time, expertise, or willingness to handle complex administrative, financial, and legal responsibilities[8][10].
- The community has substantial amenities or common areas requiring regular oversight[1][2].
- There have been issues with compliance, maintenance, or resident disputes that volunteer boards struggle to resolve[6][10].

Self-management can work for very small HOAs, but for larger communities like yours, professional management usually leads to improved operations, resident satisfaction, and property values[8][10][7].

Summary Table: Cost Estimate

| Units | Per-Unit Monthly Fee | Total Monthly Cost | Total Annual Cost |
|-------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 140 | \$10 | \$1,400 | \$16,800 |
| 140 | \$20 | \$2,800 | \$33,600 |

Plus potential initiation and extra service fees.

Conclusion

For a 140-unit HOA in Spokane, expect to pay \$10–\$20 per unit per month, or \$16,800–\$33,600 per year, plus possible initiation and extra service fees. For most HOAs of this size, the benefits—professional expertise, reduced board workload, improved compliance, and better-maintained common areas—make hiring a management company a worthwhile investment, provided you choose a reputable firm and carefully review the contract for all potential fees[1][5][10][2].

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