

Moving Tips

The thought of preparing for 'Moving Day' can cause feelings of anxiety and dread – where does one begin? No matter what size of home you are moving from, or whether you are hiring a Moving Company or having your Family/Friends help out the key is to develop a plan. There will always be little blips here and there, but incorporating the following ideas/suggestions into your plan can help make your move as seamless as possible.

The first things to do...

- It is best to call a mover as far in advance as possible - once you know your moving date. Last minute calls may mean spending extra money or not finding a mover at all.
- If you are not hiring a moving company recruit Family/Friends as early as possible, and ask them to 'save the date' so you are not left on your own on moving date. If you will be renting a moving truck or trailer for your move book this as far in advance as you can.
- If you are moving into or out of an **apartment** reserve the elevator for the day of your move. If you are moving in/out of a house arrange for street parking. **Winter Moves:** ensure the driveway and sidewalks are clear of snow and ice.
- Ensure you have the right supplies for packing: moving boxes/crates, packing tape, packing paper, bubble wrap and a black sharpie for labeling boxes (these are just some basic supplies to get you started, moving companies offer a variety of packing products depending on what your needs are.)

Packing things up!

- If you are packing yourself, start well in advance of moving day. Discard any unwanted items.
- Depending on if you are moving in the winter or the summer, keep in mind the weather and how hot or cold temperatures can affect the items you are packing (will some items freeze if temperatures turn cold or will they melt if temperatures are hot.)
- Keep your valuables such as jewelry, money or important documents (like your passport), with you, don't pack them in a box.
- If you are packing an overnight bag (luggage) keep it separate from other packed items so that it doesn't accidentally get loaded on a moving truck.



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Moving Tips (cont)

Leave clothing and bedding in dresser drawers (solid wood dressers only.) Remove breakables and pack these separately. Do not overload the drawers. It is easier for moving companies to load the moving truck if you leave your furniture in its original rooms.

- Remove pictures, fixtures and photos from the walls before the movers arrive.
- Be careful not to over-pack a carton/box. Heavy items such as hardcover books are best packed in smaller cartons.
- Mark the sides and top of boxes/cartons with a summary of contents as well as the room the box belongs in.
- Try to use up as much frozen food (if you have a freezer) as you can prior to moving day. It is best to defrost your freezer before moving day. If you have to pack any frozen food pack it in boxes, laundry baskets or clear plastic bags. But remember you have a limited amount of time to move these items before they defrost.
- If you have small children consider hiring a babysitter for the day.
- If working with a moving company walk through your house or apartment with the mover pointing out special-care items. Clearly set aside any items you do not want the movers to handle. Sometimes, it is best to place these items in their own room/closet and label them with a "DO NOT SHIP" note.
- Try and be at the **new** home before the movers start unloading. Know where you want your belongings placed. With a new-build home your builder may be able to provide you with a line drawing of your home. This will allow you to get an idea of where you may want major pieces of furniture placed before the move day.



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Moving Tips (cont)

Specialized Items

- Canned goods and liquids: pack upright with no more than 24-30 cans per box. Wrap glass containers and double bag any containers of liquids that you need the movers to take (decorative cooking oil bottles etc.) Weigh the value of what you are taking to the cost/risk of moving – it may make more sense to donate unopened items to the food bank and discard opened items.
- Plants: you may not want the movers transporting your plants. If moving yourself plants may transport best in a separate vehicle.
- Glassware and China: clearly mark the boxes 'FRAGILE'. Wrap glassware and china with tissue or clear newsprint. Pack plates, platters and saucers on edges, NOT FLAT, and layer with padding or crushed packing paper, between and along the top and bottom of the box.
- Clocks: remove or secure pendulums in large clocks. You may want an expert to prepare grandfather clocks before moving them. Clothes: Pack clothes in clean cartons/boxes or use a wardrobe box.
- Drapes and Curtains: If taking any cloth window coverings remove them from the curtain rods. Fold and pack in cartons or dresser drawers. Wardrobe cartons are good for these, as well, especially on high end window coverings.
- Lamps: pack with bedding or wrap separately and place upright in lined cartons. Wrap shades in tissue rather than newspaper. Place upright in a lined carton.
- Mirrors, Paintings and Pictures: Tell your mover about special-care items. Wrap small mirrors, pictures, paintings and frames and place UPRIGHT at edge of cartons. Large items should also be left upright in larger, sturdier containers. Place tape diagonally across mirrors for protection. Do not use newspaper to protect paintings.
- Computers and Video Equipment: pack in original boxes if possible. Otherwise, use strong cartons and protective pads. Wrap cords separately and label.
- Microwave Ovens: If the microwave is not staying with the home remove and wrap all loose articles from inside the oven. Tape the door shut with an 'X' pattern over the door and glass. Use the original manufacturer's box if possible.
- Records, CDs and Stereos: CDs and records should be placed upright in cartons. Wrap the stereo in an old blanket and place in a carton.
- Silverware: If you have a silver chest put a small towel in each section to keep all the pieces in their place.
- Small Appliances and Utensils: wrap and place small appliances and utensils in cartons. Place heavier items on the bottom. Have an authorized service provider prepare all the large appliances if they are not staying with the home.



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Moving Tips (cont)

Goods That A Moving Company CANNOT Transport

The law prohibits household goods carriers from transporting the following goods:

- **EXPLOSIVES:** Ammunition including bullets, shotgun shells, etc. rail road or road flares, fireworks, detonators, and blasting caps.
- **GASES:** Any gases under pressure or liquefied, propane or propane tanks, quick start, oxygen, acetylene, helium, household or industrial fuel, aerosol cans (hair spray, anti-perspirant, paint, etc.) butane lighters. **OXIDIZERS:** Bleach, disinfectants, organic peroxides and fertilizers, pool chemicals, hair bleach, chlorine in any form.
- **FLAMMABLE SOLIDS:** Matches, fuel tablets, BBQ starter, pellets, hay or straw, wood chips.
- **FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS:** Gas, Cleaning fluid, lighter fluid, paint, paint thinner, BBQ starter, glues, resins, kerosene, naphtha, acetone, alcohol, lamp oil.
- **CORROSIVES:** Oven cleaner, toilet cleaner, liquid plumber, drains cleaner, lye, acids (sulfuric, hydrochloric, nitric, and muriatic), car, boat or motorcycle batteries.
- **POISONS:** Pesticides, herbicides, cygon, fumigants, wood preservatives, creosote, photographic chemicals.
- **ITEMS SUBJECT TO SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTIONS:** Oil rags, charcoal.



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Moving Tips (cont)

Cleaning and Finishing Touches at the Home You Have Sold

The home should be in the same condition as when the Buyers saw/bought it. The Buyers and their Realtor will likely do a walk-through prior to possession and if they find damage or items missing that were to remain as part of the purchase contract there may be a hold back of proceeds from the sale.

Here are things to do before possession day:

Your home should be CLEAN – rugs cleaned, floors mopped, cupboards wiped out, bathrooms cleaned, appliances cleaned inside and out, all items including unwanted items/garbage should be removed from the house, garage, sheds, storage, property, etc.

Ensure items that are part of the purchase contract are left in the home (ie. microwave, washer/dryer, TV wall mounts, window coverings, other special items etc.) Other items to leave behind are: appliance manuals, mailbox keys, spare keys, alarm codes, garage door remotes – we recommend leaving these in a kitchen drawer. Refer to the terms in your Purchase Contract.

Cut the lawn, clean up any pet waste in the yard and repair any damage that may have occurred as a result of moving.



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