

# PACKING TIPS

**Moving to a new home is a huge, stressful undertaking. And then there's the packing. If there's a move in your future we have prepared a list of packing tips to help you make the process easier.**

As soon as you know you'll be moving **start getting rid of clutter**. Otherwise you'll pay to move items you may end up throwing out once in your new home.

Remember boxes are usually stacked. As you pack, ask yourself if the box can carry the **weight of other boxes**.

Newspaper will leave black ink marks on your dishes. **Use new "unprinted" packing paper** for wrapping and newspaper for "filler."

**Larger bookshelves** need to be disassembled, such as 5 cube IKEA bookcases.

**Boxes should be packed full and tight**. If a box isn't full to the top, fill it with paper or soft material. Boxes should be able to be taped closed easily in a perfect square.

**Lampshades** are extremely fragile. Remove the shades and bulbs and pack them separately. Better yet, take them with you!

**Pictures and artwork with glass** MUST be wrapped in bubble wrap. Ideally they should be packed in specific "picture boxes" (long and skinny).

**Glasses should be packed upside down**, with several pieces of packing paper. Ask yourself, "if I drop this box, is it packed properly to avoid damage?"

Do NOT use **garbage bags** to pack your items. They can easily be mistaken for garbage and be tossed. Bags can also

rip very easily.

Make sure to take apart your **outdoor play structures**. Movers will not move them if they're assembled.

**Plates should be packed on their sides** or edges, with several pieces of packing paper. Ask yourself, "if I drop this box, is it packed properly to avoid damage?"

Make sure to take apart your **BowFlex**. Movers will not move it unless it's taken apart.

If you have a **trampoline**, take it apart. Movers will not move it if it's still assembled.

If you have a **deep fryer**, DUMP THE OIL. A full fryer will not travel well!

**Do not pack liquids** for movers to take. Think of the damage BLEACH could cause in the truck if the bottle burst open.

**Mirrors** MUST be wrapped in bubble wrap. Ideally they should be packed in specific "picture boxes" (long and skinny). Another option is to take them yourself.

When packing your **microwave** do not forget to remove and pack the glass plate inside.

On moving day have **extra boxes** on hand for last-minute packing—because there will be.

**Filing cabinets must be emptied**: they are very heavy, and the mechanisms inside shift awkwardly in transit, causing damage.

**Be careful not to overpack a carton**. Heavy items, like hardcover books or records, should be packed in smaller cartons.

Remove or secure pendulums in large clocks. **Grandfather clocks** should be handled by an expert.

As soon as you have your moving date, **start packing**. Don't wait for "later" or a "better time."

**Label contents** of boxes by ROOM; colour coding or numbering makes it harder to coordinate and slows down the movers.

Before taking them apart, take pictures of the back of your **electronic devices**. These pictures will make it that much easier to set up your TV or monitor as soon as you move in.

Keep a stash of **Ziploc bags** in your purse or backpack for the big moving day. You can use the bags to store doorknobs, tiny screws and brackets, luggage keys, or other small, easily forgettable items.

Keep **valuables** such as jewelery, money, important documents and photos with you. Don't pack them for moving.

**Pay it forward.** Offer your packing boxes to someone else when you're done!

**Pack a clear plastic box with things you'll need right away.** This can include toilet paper, a shower curtain, hand soap, towels, sheets, snacks, or whatever else you think you'll need for the first day or night in your new home. Having a few essential items on hand will make you feel more comfortable and prepared to tackle unpacking everything else



**If you find the process overwhelming  
and you need a little help (or a lot!)  
-I'm a call away. We love packing!**



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