



Tips & Tricks

# For Your Big Move



## Plan ahead

### → Create a schedule or timeline

Rome wasn't built in a day, and the same is true for moving. If you wait until the day before – or even the week before – you'll be wishing you had started preparing months in advance. We highly recommend creating a moving schedule or timeline that begins 8 weeks prior to moving day.

### → Gather boxes

...and make sure they're GOOD boxes! You'll need boxes of all sizes, and probably more boxes than you think. Places like home improvement stores or moving companies sell them, or you can often find them for FREE behind shopping centers, grocery stores and liquor stores.

### → Strategically hire your moving crew

If you plan to use a moving service, be sure to do your research. Find a company with good reviews, then book them ASAP. Ideally, book their first time slot of the day so they move your stuff before getting exhausted from other moves on their schedule.

### → Make the calls

Call to cancel and/or transition your services in advance, such as internet, cable, electricity, and water. If you're a renter, be sure you give your landlord a heads up in advance according to your lease agreement.

### → Get rid of stuff

Go through every closet, drawer, box, and shelf, and get rid of all your junk. We all tend to collect items we no longer use but consider your upcoming move a fresh start. Take your stuff to a local donation center; host a garage sale; just get rid of the things you don't need!



### → Ask family and friends for help

It's also a good idea to "hire" family and friends. You'd be surprised how much a free meal, are turned favor, or a cold case of beer can be worth!



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## Get to packin'

### → Make a packing and unpacking playlist

Music can actually impact your mood. If you think you'll need a little pep in your step while packing, or some relaxing jams to unpack to, throw a few playlists together to help get you in the groove (pun intended).

### → Don't pack your hanging clothes

It's much easier to stack them in the back seat of a car or on a hanging rod ON the hanger than to have to re-hang them all again at your new home.

### → Use luggage, duffle bags, and trash bags

Toss your shoes, folded clothes, soft items, toiletries, and anything else unbreakable into suitcases, duffle bags, and trash bags for an easy carry alternative.

### → Use packing cushion you already have

Bubble wrap is fun and all but investing in rolls of cushioning materials is often unnecessary. Towels, t-shirts, and blankets you already have will do the trick.

### → Pack an "Open Immediately" box or bag

You'll need some items for the first night or two in your new place. At the very least, include personal items, pillows and blankets, a change of clothes, toiletries, a phone charger, prescriptions and a roll of toilet paper.

### → Pack and label boxes by room

Once you're all packed up, the unloading process will go a lot smoother if you and your moving help know where to unload boxes and what's inside of each.



### → Don't make BIG boxes too heavy

...but DO fill boxes to the top! Filling the empty space with items such as towels, pillows, blankets and clothing can help reduce the risk of breakage. Use smaller boxes for heavier items such as books and dishes to make moving them more manageable.



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## Prepare for moving day

### → Take photos when taking apart furniture and electronics

Snap some photos of any furniture or electronics you'll have to reassemble at your new home to help you remember what goes where.

### → Create a moving day plan

Have a good idea of where you want things to go – in moving vehicles, personal vehicles and at your new place. Also, be sure your moving schedule aligns with your helpers'.

### → Leave out some supplies for moving day

Keep out cleaning supplies, a few empty boxes, trash bags, packing tape, and sharpies for moving day. Those last-minute items (like items in the pantry or refrigerator) will sneak up on you!

### → Fuel up

Make sure you have plenty of water and snacks for the big day. Keeping a cooler handy is a great idea. Don't forget to feed and water your moving help as well!

## Rock your move

### → Pack the moving truck(s) wisely

If you're renting or borrowing a truck, be sure to put the big, heavy items – like furniture – in first. If you're using a moving service, they'll likely have padded blankets to protect your items. If not, you'll want to borrow or invest in some padded blankets and rope to stabilize and protect your items during the move.

### → Keep important items off the moving truck

Anything sentimental or extremely fragile, transport in your personal vehicle. Things like fine jewelry, framed pictures or artwork, collectibles, electronics, and fine china should stay off the moving truck. Be sure to keep important documents, such as contracts and proof of identity, with you.

### → Reward yourself for moving milestones

Have you unpacked and organized your new kitchen? GREAT JOB! Call in a to-go order at your favorite restaurant. Are you finished moving all the furniture inside and to the right spots? Schedule a spa treatment. Moving is hard work – Treat Yo' Self!