



Tips for Packing Like a Pro

- ◆ Develop a master “to do” list so you won’t forget something critical.
- ◆ Sort and toss items you no longer want or need. Have a garage sale, donate to a charity, or recycle.
- ◆ Don’t throw out everything. If your first inclination is to pitch an item, ask yourself how frequently you use it and how you’ll feel if you no longer have it.
- ◆ Pack like items together. Put toys with toys, kitchen utensils with kitchen utensils.
- ◆ Decide what’ if anything’ you plan to move yourself. Precious items such as family photos, valuables, breakables, or must-haves during the move should probably stay with you.
- ◆ Use the right box for the right item. Loose packing encourages breakage.
- ◆ On the otherhand, don’t over-pack boxes either. Bulging tops and sides plus inadequate padding add up to broken belongings.
- ◆ Put heavy items in small boxes so they’re easier to lift. Keep weight under 50 lbs., if possible.
- ◆ Wrap every fragile item separately and pad bottoms and sides of boxes.
- ◆ Label every box on all sides. You never know how they’ll be stacked and you don’t want to have to move other boxes aside to find out what’s there.
- ◆ Use color-coded labels to indicate which room each item should go in. Color-code a floor plan for your new house to help movers.
- ◆ Keep your moving documents together, including phone numbers, driver’s name and van number. Also keep your address book handy.
- ◆ Back up your computer files before moving your computer.
- ◆ Inspect each box and all furniture for damage as soon as it arrives.
- ◆ Remember, most movers won’t take plants.

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