

# Move Preparation Tips and Tricks



## Initial steps

- Call the moving company to see what items they cannot ship.
- Organize before the movers come, and put like items together. A small amount of work will go a long way.
- Purge, donate, or get rid of items you won't need.
- Be prepared to ship guns. Know your gun laws.
- Take photos of all of your household goods. Ensure the photos are time stamped.
- Take a video of TVs or electronics working and serial numbers.

## Last minute

- Empty, clean, and group together your trash and recycling bins. The movers will pack trash that is in the bin.
- Unhook all of your electronics yourself and bag and label all cords.
- Take everything off the wall and put it all in a pile.
- Unhook all furniture and anything attached to the wall.
- Determine the room you will use as the "DO NOT PACK/NO MOVERS/DO NOT TOUCH" room and room to keep pets safe.

## General advice

- Put items that can spill in a Ziploc.
- Use Ziploc bags to keep small items together, i.e. legos, decorations, etc.
- Consider taking the batteries out of everything, the heat of the summer can destroy them and the item they are in.
- Consider using space saver/vacuum bags to keep towels, sheets, and blankets from smelling like the moving truck.
- Consider using garment bags and pre-pack hanging clothing in them to protect the clothing from moisture/dust/box smells/bugs.
- Keep the parts attached to the furniture (tape it to the furniture) or take the parts box yourself. It's a nightmare when the movers lose parts.
- Consider using a wrap-all-the-way-around mattress or allergy protector for your mattress to protect it from getting wet/having moisture issues.
- Pack silverware and utensils in Ziploc.
- Prebox valuables, sentimental, and irreplaceable items. (Consider moving yourself)
- If it can't be replaced and you'll be upset if it's lost/broken, pack and move it yourself.

\*\*This is NOT an Official U.S. Coast Guard document. The information is provided in good faith based on recommendations of military families. Use the information at your own risk. \*\*