



WILLIS ALLEN

REAL ESTATE

Moving Tips

Renting a Moving Truck:

Make sure you choose your company carefully. Ask the following questions to aid in your decision.

- How many trucks / trailers do you have?
- How old are your vehicles?
- Does the truck have an automatic or manual transmission?
- Is the cab air-conditioned?
- How many adults can ride comfortably?
- How many miles to the gallon will the truck get when it is fully loaded?
- What happens if the truck breaks down? Is there road service and who pays for it?
- Does the truck have a hydraulic lift or ramp?
- Does the truck include a spare tire and emergency flares?
- Are there mileage charges or drop-off fees on the vehicle?

Supplies for Packing:

- Strong packing boxes
- Bubble wrap for packing fragile items
- Tissue and ink-free packing paper
- Scissors
- Several broad-tip markers to label boxes
- Rolls of packing tape

Packing Tips:

- Get more boxes than you think you will need.
- Get smaller boxes for books. Use bigger boxes for lighter items.
- Pack room-by-room, keeping similar items together.
- Reinforce the bottom of boxes with at least one strip of packing tape.
- Pack boxes firmly to prevent the contents from shifting during your move.
- Use crumpled paper as padding. Seal boxes tightly with wide packing tape.
- Pack records and CDs vertically in boxes. Don't stack them flat.
- Place heavier items in the bottom of the box and lighter items on top.
- Separate items with paper to prevent scratches caused by rubbing.
- Remove lids from jars and ceramics. Wrap each separately.
- Seal any open boxes and bottles before packing them to avoid spills and leaks.
- Use towels, linens, curtains, etc. to pad boxes of fragile items. Clearly mark these boxes "FRAGILE".
- Use a jumbo box for lampshades and cushion them well.

Moving Tips

- When disassembling furniture, beds, lamps, etc., put the hardware into a plastic bag along with any assembly tips and tape it onto the item itself.
- If possible, ask your mover if you can leave clothes in dresser drawers. Find out from your movers how they want hanging clothes packed.
- Make a master list of all household items and your belongings.
- Number boxes when they are packed and sealed. Clearly indicate on the box its room destination. Write on the master list the contents of the numbered boxes.
- Make a box of essentials and label it "Open Me First". Put this box to the side to be loaded last (so its unloaded first) or move it yourself.
- Your Essentials Box may include:
 - Basic tools such as a flashlight, pocket knife, hammer, screwdrivers, nails, masking tape, tape measure, and light bulbs.
 - Bathroom essentials such as hand towels, soap, toilet paper, shampoo, and shower curtains.
- Kitchen goodies such as paper towels, coffee maker and filters, paper plates and cups, plastic utensils, dish detergent, a sponge, pet foods, dishes, and trash bags.
- Pack rugs last so they can be the first items unloaded and placed at your new location.

Cleaning appliances for moving day:

- Clean your appliances early for a more pleasant and odor-free move.
- Defrost your refrigerator and freezer, propping doors open. Afterward, place an open box of baking soda inside each for a fresher aroma.
- Clean your oven and range. Use a powerful scrubbing agent and brush.
- Drain your washing machine.
- Place a nylon stocking filled with baking soda or a few pieces of charcoal inside your washer to prevent mildew. Tape the hoses and cords to the back of the machine.
- Clean your dishwasher and remove any leftover soap.
- Cut a lemon into pieces and grind it into the garbage disposal to eliminate odors.
- Remember to dry interiors of all appliances to prevent mildew.

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