

MOVING TIPS & TRICKS

Between finding a credible moving company and packing up all your stuff, it's no secret that moving can feel like a part-time job. With these pro tips, you'll be better informed about what to expect from your movers and ready to tackle the dreaded moving process headfirst.

WHAT TO ASK YOUR MOVER

Are there any **hidden fees** or extra charges for stairs or longer distances?

Will my stuff be **transferred** to another truck mid-trip?

Do you have **references** from other customers who have booked with you?

What type of **training** do your movers, drivers, packers and loaders go through? Are they **certified**?

Do you offer **valuation** or **liability coverage**?

BAD MOVER RED FLAGS



Make sure the company has a **telephone number** and **physical address** listed on their website.



Watch out for "too good to be true" pricing by getting at least **three in-home estimates**.



Ensure the company has a **federal motor carrier number** so you know your mover is legitimate.

THE GREATEST PACKING HACKS EVER

Use **color-coded boxes** and/or smart-move tape to keep track of what's in every box

Alternatively, label what's in each box with a sharpie (think kid's toys or bedroom #1)

Use a box cutter to create handles on your moving boxes

Use clothing instead of bubble wrap or packing peanuts to cushion your breakables

Pull trash bags over clothing and hangers so you can drop them right into your new closet

Use your suitcase as a moving container; they're great for moving durables like books or movies

Use bread bag ties to prevent electronic wires from tangling

Use your socks to pack small breakables, such as wine glasses or champagne flutes

Put saran wrap around liquid toiletries so they don't spill

Store jewelry in an egg carton so necklaces and delicates don't tangle

Stack your plates vertically so they don't break

Use sandwich bags to hold small parts, nails, screws, etc.

Vacuum seal your clothing to save extra space

Use extra-durable and (free) beer and liquor boxes to transport heavier items

"Delegate" the packing to friends and family

Give yourself a break and hire professional movers to do the packing and loading for you

Plan your meals the week before you move

Pack a "day-of" bag with all of your basics

Hire cleaners to clean out your place before you leave

Fill nail holes with toothpaste to get your security deposit back

DON'T FORGET TO...

During your in-home estimate, show your movers less visible spots in your home, including storage areas, attics, closets, and sheds

Forward mail and let businesses and organizations you care about know that you're moving

Host a moving party for friends to finish off any open bottles of alcohol - hey, you can't ship them!

Transfer your home services, such as Internet and cable

Give your BBQ's propane tank to the neighbor because professional movers can't move them

Have cash on hand so you can tip your mover

Put everything that's not going to be moved in a separate and clearly marked area

Book your car shipment 2-3 weeks ahead of time

Donate non-perishables to Move for Hunger 

THE BIG DAY - TOP 8 TIPS

#1 Secure arrangements for the **kids and pets** so they're not slipping underfoot.

#2 Exchange cell numbers with your mover, and always be available by phone to answer any questions.

#3 Make sure to ask for your **mover's name**, ID number, and truck number should anything go wrong en route.

#4 Dress comfortably. Jeans, sneakers and a sweatshirt are ideal.

#5 Don't move on an **empty stomach**.

#6 Keep an eye on the **weather**.

#7 Store all your **important documents** and ID's in a secure location.

#8 Do a **final sweep** of your place before you hand over the keys to the new owner.

WHEN YOU ARRIVE

Make sure your possessions are safe and sound. If not, you should file a claim.

Relax and kick your feet up - you've earned it!

Stock up the fridge with the essentials.

Don't prolong the unpacking process - it should last no more than a week and half.

Thank the friends and family that helped you pack!

Leave an online review of your moving company's services to inform others.