

Before the move

- If you're not hiring a company to pack, start packing **4–6 weeks ahead**.
- Use this time to **declutter and purge** before putting things in boxes.
- Create a room-by-room packing plan (ie. 1 room per day or “X” amount of boxes/day).
- Label every box with the **room + contents**. Using **colored stickers** is a great room labelling practice.
- Keep important documents, immediate need items/medicines and valuables separate.
- Measure large furniture for placement at destination before moving day.
- Schedule movers early, especially for summer/weekends. **2-3 weeks preferred**.

Packing tips

- Use **LOTS** of packing paper and bubble wrap.
- Put heavier items at the bottom of boxes.
- Don't overfill boxes, but make sure they're **packed to the top**. Empty space allows items to shift and break.
- Use towels, bedding, pillows, or clothing to protect fragile items and complete boxes (See above point).
- Take photos of electronics and their hook ups before disconnecting them.
- Clearly mark fragile boxes.
- Never lay cups, stemware, or pictures on their sides. They should be **packed vertically**.

Moving-day tips

- Keep a small **moving-day essentials bag** with you.
- Have children/pets in a safe, separate area.
- Do a **final walkthrough** of closets, cabinets, garage, and attic.
- Photograph the condition of valuable furniture before loading.
- Keep your phone, wallet, keys, and important documents with you.

- Make sure any items that are not moving are **clearly labelled**. Keep these items separated where possible.

Cost-saving tips

- Get **multiple moving quotes** and ask for discounts.
- Move during the week or off season when possible.
- If possible, **shuttle items** that require packing or additional care prior to the move. Example: Lamps, pictures, hanging clothes, TVs, large décor items, etc.
- **Donate or sell items** you don't want instead of paying to move them.
- **Pack the easy items yourself.** *Example: Clothes, linens, books, toys, etc.* Let your mover pack the more difficult and fragile items. *Example: TVs, dishes, fine China, pictures/mirrors, lamps, etc.*
- Check whether shrink wrap, stairs, long carries, or heavy/bulky items cost extra.

Common things movers won't take

- **Hazardous/flammable items:** Gasoline, Propane Tanks, Cleaning Chemicals, Paint, Explosives, Firearms/Ammunition, Lighter Fluid, Aerosol Cans, Fertilizers, Pesticides.
- **Live Plants:** Particularly for interstate moves or moves that require storage or items being held on the truck for a period of time. There are some exceptions.
- **Perishables:** Frozen/Refrigerated Food, Open Food or Alcohol. No food, including dry food or canned goods should be stored.
- **Valuables:** Cash, Jewelry, Important Documents, Birth Certificates, Passports, Financial Documents, Collectibles, Irreplaceable sentimental items, Controlled Medicines.