

Packing Guide to make your move less stressful

With a little care, planning and common sense, you and your precious household goods will both arrive in good condition

We recommend doing the job once and doing the job right – spend a little more time and effort on quality packing techniques and packing products to protect your goods.

It is worth considering that most damage comes from vibration. Think of a stack of dishes in a box on the bed of a bouncing truck. No matter how well the sides are padded, a firm up-and-down jolt could crack the entire stack. On the other hand, dishes packed on edge and surrounded by bubble wrap have a better chance of surviving the trip unharmed.

Packing techniques:

Rule One

“Never” pack a box that you can’t lift later. Also don’t lift boxes that are too heavy, If you hurt yourself during the move it will be a very stressful situation.

Think about the weight of your items and decide whether they would be best in a small box or a large box.

Pack one room at a time, labelling each box with a description of its contents and its destination (e.g., kitchen, bathroom). Be as specific as you can; it will make unpacking that much easier. Don't apply tape directly to polished or painted wood finishes. Removing the tape could ruin the surface. With fragile items add plenty of cushioning.

Prepare for the first night in your new home by packing essential items (don’t forget the pillows) and keep separate from general items. You may even want to prepare a simple meal that you can heat and serve on your first night. For each person in the household: a change of clothes, a towel, prescription drugs, a toothbrush, and other personal items.

Consider packing: plastic utensils, paper plates, paper towels, plastic cups, toilet paper, toiletries, trash bags, a flashlight, first aid kit including pain relievers, pencil and paper, snacks, beverages, and re-closable plastic bags. A small tool kit for re-assembling items that couldn't be moved whole may come in very handy.

Specialty packing:

- **A Security Box:**

We recommend preparing a box with passports, birth certificates and vital documents to be kept with you during the move, as this information is very annoying and costly to replace.

- **An Emergency Box:**

We recommend preparing a box with your TV remotes, maybe the kids favourite dvd, spare keys, batteries, a torch, tissues, some pain killers and a pack of bandaids as this could save you a big drama.

- **Major appliances:**

Check with the appliance dealer for any special moving instructions.

For all large appliances, remove loose fittings and accessories and pack separately. Tie down, tape or wedge all movable parts and doors.

- **Beds:**

Disassemble the bed frame. Tie rails and cross-pieces together with packing tape. Be sure to mark on tape to show where pieces fit together for reassembly. We recommend using mattress bags to protect your mattress from soiling in transit.

- **Bicycles, Tricycles, Baby Carriages:**

Loosen and turn handlebars at right angles to save space. Clean and cover chains and pedals to protect other items from being snagged or soiled.

- **Clothes:**

Dresses, coats, suits - anything hanging in closets - travel best in Porta-robe Boxes, which can be used seasonally as "extra closets" for wardrobe storage. Other clothes can remain folded in their regular dresser drawers.

Comforters, Pillows, Large/Light Items:

Tea Chest Boxes will be best for packing light bulky items. If you have small fragile items, you can pack a few in between the pillows for extra protection - just don't forget to mark them on the box.

- **Dishwasher/Washing Machine:**

Stuff towels between machine sides and tub to keep tub from rotating. Pad exterior well. Disconnect hoses, put in plastic bag.

We can supply Washer or Dryer shippers for secure shipping if required.

- **Freezer/Refrigerator:**

Defrost and dry interiors well. You can fill the interior spaces with lightweight linens, clothing or stuffed toys. If lay your refrigerator down for moving, make sure it stands upright for at least 24 hours before plugging in. We can supply Fridge or Freezer shippers for secure shipping if required.

- **Dressers:**

Secure drawers with pad or blanket and tape. Do not overload / overpack drawers.

- **Dishes:**

Individually wrap each piece. Book Boxes will fit most kitchenware without making the box too heavy. Place saucers, plates and platters on edge - DO NOT STACK FLAT. Cups and bowls may be placed inside each other and wrapped three or four in a bundle. We recommend Tea Chest boxes for your plastics and lighter kitchen goods.

- **Fine Furniture:**

You may want to wrap your best furniture in bubble wrap or a furniture blanket, not only to protect it from scratching, but to keep dust and dirt off the upholstery. Make sure to wrap the item very tight to prevent snags while you are moving.

- **Glasses:**

Wrap each glass separately in packing paper or bubble wrap.

- **Kitchenware:**

Pots, pans, plastic ware etc. can be stacked in a Tea Chest box with packing paper between them.

- **Lamps:**

After disassembling lamps, pack small bases in dresser drawers surrounded by loose clothing, and large bases in boxes stuffed with packing paper or bubble wrap. Box shades individually in boxes with plenty of packing paper for stuffing. Don't use newspaper because it smudges.

- **Lawn Mowers:**

Drain fuel and oil before loading. Remove handle from hand mowers and place blade end in sturdy box. Mark properly.

- **Mirrors, Paintings, Prints:**

Small mirrors can be well wrapped in paper and packed in boxes. For a larger mirrors and large picture frames, Picture Boxes work best.

Mark "GLASS" on the outside to prevent mishandling. Always pack and store upright.

- **Paint and Flammables:**

Don't move! The same goes for other flammables such as alcohol, solvents, lighter fluid, ammunition and greasy mops or rags

- **Stereos computers and TVs:**

Consider using shipper boxes or having boxes custom made for expensive items.

- **Statues and figurines:**

We can make you a spec to fit shipper for your item, we do warn however that items over 40kg will need special attention (please advise should this be the case).

- **Tables:**

For large tables, remove legs and tie together. Put hardware in small sealed envelope taped to underside of table top. Apply a pad (furniture blanket) to tops. For smaller tables, pad top and wrap legs to prevent scratching. You can also consider having boxes custom made to take table tops, small or large

- **Tools and Gardening Equipment:** Drain hoses, coil and pack in boxes. Fill remaining space with lawn sprinklers, small garden hand tools, etc. Combine rakes, shovels, and other long-handled tools together with tape.

- **TV's (Flatscreens):** We recommend having a box custom made from as little as \$25. you can choose from a made to measure picture style box or a spec to suit TV shipper with styrene blocks . Either way you have the choice of protecting your valuable tv
Before you order: Please call or email us all of the dimensions: Length from left to right, Depth from front to back and of course Height including the stand
(please also let us know if you intend to wrap the item, so we may make allowance)

- **Valuables:** Set aside jewellery, important papers and safe deposit box contents to be packed in a small container you can keep with you throughout the move.