

- **Moving Checklist (Ours)**
- **Preparing for your movers**
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I. MOVING CHECKLIST

How to pack for moving, room-by-room

Start by making an inventory of the items you plan to take. Do this based on each room — this will help you organize faster and keep track of your valuable possessions. From there, gather moving supplies such as packing and moving boxes, padding, tape, and blankets — everything you'd need to protect your things during transit. When you go to pack your items, try to combine them based on function — for example, pack kitchen supplies together.

Lastly, don't forget to mark your moving boxes so you know exactly where it goes in your new home. On the top and sides of your box note the room name, the contents of the box, and whether or not items inside of the box are fragile. For example, a box you packed from the kitchen could say: "kitchen/everyday dishes/fragile."

Additional packing checklist items for each room of the house

Kitchen

- **Defrost the refrigerator:** At least 48 hours prior to moving out.
- **Organize dishes:** Packing dishes for moving isn't as hard as you might think. Just make sure to pack them carefully by wrapping them in bubble wrap. And refrain from overpacking boxes. Overpacking will make it more difficult to move the boxes and if a box incurs damage, you could lose a whole grouping of plates.
- **Use sectioned boxes for your glasses:** It's a simple, secure way to transport them.
- **Pack small appliances:** Start by removing any blades or loose components. Tape the cord around the appliance, tape any additional parts to it, and be sure to include the instructions.
- **Pack dry goods:** Tape paper or bubble wrap around seasonings and pack jars containing spices or food on the bottom so they don't move around during transit.
- **For refrigerated goods:** Store them in coolers with ice.

Dining room

- **Roll up the rug:** Secure in plastic or use a rope.
- **Pack chairs:** By removing the legs and placing them in moving boxes with the nails/casters in a labeled plastic bag.
- **Secure kitchen table:** By wrapping it in a blanket and placing it in an area where it doesn't slide around.
- **Pack decorations (this includes lamps, pictures, artwork, etc.):** By wrapping any items containing glass or ceramics in paper or bubble wrap.

Living room and den

- **Secure electronics:** For TVs and computers, secure the screens using a blanket and unscrew the base (if the device has one). Tape the screws and base to the back of the TV.
- **Pack furniture:** Place furniture into the moving truck before packing moving boxes. Remove the legs off the couch and chairs to make them easier to maneuver into your new home.
- **Keep electronic components organized:** Tape the power cables to each electronic component along with the HDMI or audio auxiliary cables and remote control.
- **Handle artwork and mirrors carefully:** Wrap them in blankets or bubble wrap.
- **Prepare your coffee table for transport:** Put furniture sliders under the legs so you don't scratch the floors when you move it. Cover the top of the table with a blanket to prevent scratching.
- **Remove bulbs and lampshades from lamps:** Store in boxes, and cushion carefully. Wrap the base of the lamp in bubble wrap if it's fragile.
- **Pack your books, CDs, and DVDs in separate boxes:** Don't make boxes too heavy or they'll break.

Bedrooms

- **Pack casual clothing:** Fold them and place them in moving boxes. For formal wear, consider buying ward robe boxes that allow you to keep the clothing on hangers during transport.
- **Organize jewelry:** Put all valuables in a container you keep on you at all times during the move.
- **Pack mattresses:** Put them in bed bags that will keep the mattress protected from the elements during the move.
- **Keep all bedding and pillows clean:** Put them in trash bags to keep out dust and place them in labeled moving boxes.
- **Pack your home office:** For crucial files, keep them in a safe or locked file box.

Bathroom

- **Pack toiletries together:** Make sure to have easy access to them for your new home. The bathroom will likely be the first room you unpack.
- **Organize towels:** Pack towels, toilet paper, soap, and more in one box for each bathroom your new home has.

Laundry room

- **Move appliances:** First, unplug the washer and dryer. Next, disconnect all components including the dryer vent and washer hose, and tape the power cords to each appliance.
- **Throw away detergents and fabric softener:** They're dangerous to transport.
- **Use laundry hampers/baskets as moving boxes:** Pack hampers with socks, T-shirts, and more for an easy move.
- **Garage/Storage shed**
- **Pack lawn furniture cushions:** Put them in boxes or trash bags.
- **Dispose of hazardous materials:** Get rid of any paint, fertilizer, or weed killer — these are hazardous to move.
- **Pack tools:** Put them in a tool chest. For items like a saw or hammer, wrap them in towels then pack them in boxes.
- **Drain the items requiring gas:** For your grill or mower, drain the gas before transporting the item. Remove the gas tank from the grill (if applicable) and turn it in before moving.
- **Deflate pool toys:** This will make it easier to pack them in boxes.
- **Take your bike with you:** Use a bike rack on your car or SUV for safe transport.

II. Preparing for “The Movers”

You've booked your moving company, set a move date, and you think you're ready for the big day. Now what? Here are a few helpful hints on everything you need to prepare before your moving company arrives.

Clean.

A few weeks before your move date, commit yourself to tackling one cleaning project per day. For example, start with your bedroom. Clean out your drawers and closet, and donate any items that you won't wear again (hint: If you haven't worn something in the past year, you won't wear it again). Not only will cleaning lighten the load for your movers, but you'll save money on packing materials and associated labor costs.

Purchase packing supplies.

Unless you're purchasing packing supplies directly from your moving company, you'll want to stock up on boxes, bubble wrap, Sharpies, and packing tape long before moving day. You'll probably need more packing supplies than you think, so anticipate a few runs to the packing supply store (or a few shipments from Amazon).

Label boxes wisely.

If you're packing everything yourself (as opposed to leaving it to the movers), be sure to label your boxes in mover speak! For example, label every moving box with the room in your new home that the box belongs in. Also, label which boxes contain fragile items by writing "FRAGILE" clearly on all sides of the box, and write "LOAD LAST" on boxes that you'll need immediately. Your movers will thank you!

Check in with your moving company.

Call your moving company to review the origination-to-destination plan and schedule before moving day. Make sure that both you and the agent in charge of your move have the correct moving date and any contact information that you'll need to reach one another. Trust us – it'll save you from last-minute moving days gone awry!

Prepare your appliances.

Believe it or not, moving companies will not disconnect your appliances – like your refrigerator, your washer/dryer, or anything connected to a major utility – for you. To save time on moving day, be sure to disconnect your appliances in advance.

Pack a "first night" box.

This box, included in your "load last" boxes, will contain things that you'll need to make your first night at your new home easy and comfortable. You'll need things like cleaning supplies, a new shower curtain, pillows/blankets/bed sheets/towels, toothbrushes, toilet paper, and a first aid kit, just in case!

Gather important paperwork... and keep it in a safe place!

Most moving companies recommend that you keep important paperwork like your birth certificate or Social Security card directly on your person on moving day, rather than the back of the moving truck. Here are a few key items to keep an eye out for:

- Bill of lading
- High-value inventory form
- Lease/mortgage documents for your new and old addresses
- Drivers licenses and passports
- Birth certificates and Social Security cards
- Vehicle registration and auto insurance information
- Medical records/kids' doctor's office contact information
- Find more instructions on how to pack your important paperwork.

Have a plan for kids and pets.

On moving day, make sure that you have a plan to keep your kids and pets out of the way of the movers. It'll ensure that no one gets hurt, and that the movers can efficiently and effectively get the job done. So, there you have it, folks! With these tips, you should be well on your way toward preparing for your professional packers to arrive.

III. How/What to Pack

One of the most stressful aspects of moving is packing. When considering how to pack for a move, a smart approach is first to gather the moving supplies you'll need and then systematically go room-by-room until the job is done. Follow Central Coast Moving & Storage's checklist for moving to make the process more manageable and create less stress.

By the way, if you need extra organization tools, follow our room-by-room packing checklist below.

General moving and packing tips

Packing is one of the most crucial phases of moving. By organizing items based on common functions, room use, or other factors, it makes it easier to keep track of your belongings during transport and unpack at your new place.

Here are some easy packing guidelines:

- Pack like items together. Start packing each box with a layer of padding – it can be newspapers, bubble wrap, or household goods, like blankets or towels. Then, put the heaviest items into the box first.
- Label each box by room and by its contents.
- Pack a box of essentials. Must have items like: screwdrivers, hammers, snacks, drinks, toothbrushes, a change of clothes, paper plates, plastic utensils and cups, a first-aid kit, medications, etc.
- Refrain from filling boxes to the brim. This prevents boxes from becoming super heavy and reduces the likelihood that they break or are dropped during transit.

That settled, let's move from room to room with packing checklists and tips.

- Start by gathering your moving supplies
- To ensure a successful move, you'll need the following moving supplies:
 1. **Boxes:** Central Coast Moving & Storage sells premium moving boxes & supplies as well as reusable boxes to be environmentally friendly. There are lots of options for other moving boxes. Use websites like Next Door or Facebook

Marketplace to search for used boxes or ask your friends and family. Gather a variety of sizes and make sure the packing boxes are in good condition.

- 2. Bubble wrap:** Bubble wrap keeps your items protected during the move. And best of all, you can buy it from us directly or at office supply or department stores inexpensively or find it free on Facebook Marketplace.
- 3. Dolly:** Carrying boxes between places becomes taxing and could lead to drops. To prevent them from happening, rent a dolly from a home improvement store or moving company as it makes moving much easier.

IV. WHAT NOT TO PACK

Beauty Products

- Nail polish
- Nail polish remover
- Aerosols (think hair spray or deodorants)

Cleaning

- Cleaning solvents
- Ammonia
- Liquid bleach
- Aerosol air fresheners

Garden Chemicals

- Fertilizer
- Poisons (such as weed killer)
- Pesticides
- BBQ: propane/propane tanks
- Pool chemicals

Garage Chemicals

- Car Batteries
- Motor Oil
- Paint Thinner
- Gasoline •Kerosene

Miscellaneous Household Items

- Fluorescent light bulbs
- Propane tanks
- Lamp oils
- Fire extinguishers

- Batteries
- Matches
- Guns (including starter pistols)
- Ammunition
- Fireworks
- Paints (both latex and oil-based)

Why Can't You Bring These Items?

Some of these items are poisonous, explosive or corrosive on their own, and others can combine with other chemicals to create dangerous substances. You may be thinking, "If these things are so dangerous to move, how come I was able to bring them home in my car?" Your movers have to consider worst case scenarios, like long distance travel along bumpy roads, long periods in vans that may get very cold or hot on the inside, and even road accidents that cause the van to overturn. As responsible professionals, your movers need to make sure that your belongings, van drivers and the general public are kept safe.

There are also laws to obey. In California, some materials are classified as Hazardous Materials (Haz-mat) under the Transportation act. These cannot be hauled by most movers because they don't have Haz-mat certified drivers, placards and paperwork required to move these articles. A good rule of thumb to follow: when in doubt, leave it out. Especially if you're trying to pack in a hurry.

V. Packing Electronic

The Essentials

Following these 4 guidelines will help with almost all of your electronics.

- Electronics, especially anything with a microchip, is vulnerable to static electricity. You should use antistatic bubble wrap/bubbles or popcorn to ensure your electronics aren't damaged. If you don't have any of this handy, you request it from your movers, or you can get it online or at electronics stores.
- If you still have the manufacturer's guide or user guide for your equipment, refer to it for detailed instructions on moving the item. Alternatively, check the manufacturer's website for user guides.
- When your electronic goods have a complex wiring set up, it's a good idea to label wires and draw a diagram as you dismantle the item, that way it is far easier to set up again in your new home.
- Mark any boxes containing electronics with a clear label that says "fragile".

Packing Your Flat Screen TV

When you're moving, the simplest option for packing your flat screen TV is to re-package it inside the box in which you purchased it. Not everyone has the room to store the

original boxes, though. Another option is to purchase specialist boxes, specifically designed for moving electronics. The third and simplest option is to pack your television like this:

- Wrap a microfibre towel or blanket around your TV and seal the package with tape. This protects your television and ensures the screen is not scratched (watch out – some other fabrics that seem soft can scratch).
- Wrap and seal a few layers of antistatic bubble wrap around the package to make sure you provide enough protection. A box or thick sheets of cardboard will ensure it remains intact throughout the removal process.
- Flat screen TVs aren't heavy, but they can be awkward. When moving the TV, it should be carried by two people so it doesn't get dropped, then placed in a secure location inside the truck. Ideally place it on top of something that will absorb shocks from driving along rough roads, like a thick, cushiony moving blanket.
- All flat screen TVs need to stay upright. Lying it flat means more risk to the screen. You also need to make sure it can't tip over. If you're moving the TV in your car, use a seat belt to secure the package.

Packing Your Sound System

Your sound system may be a large and complex surround sound system or a simple one-unit piece of equipment, but either way similar steps apply. As with your other delicate electronics, the ideal scenario is that you re-pack your sound system in its original packaging or inside specialist electronics boxes, which are fairly expensive to purchase. If you choose either of these packing methods, you should still ensure the sound system is wrapped securely inside layers of antistatic bubble wrap. Here's how to pack your sound system safely:

- Unplug all wires from the outlets and coil them neatly, tying with string, rubber bands or zip ties. Use tape to secure them to the unit, so they don't work loose in transit.
- Wrap the sound system in a couple of layers of antistatic bubble wrap and secure with tape.
- Pack the unit into the chosen box, then add a newsprint or regular bubble wrap around the unit to provide extra cushioning during the move.
- Close the box lid and seal well with tape. Label this box carefully so everybody involved in your home removal is aware the contents are fragile.

Packing Your Computer

Consult the user guide provided with the computer to find out if you need to follow any special packing instructions. You should remove ink cartridges from printers prior to packing. It's usual to remove all CDs, DVDs and other storage media from computers prior to packing (although some user guides stipulate that CDs should remain inside the "A" drive of computers to protect the drive from damage).

Use the following packing method to ensure your computer is safely stored and transported to your new home:

- If you don't have the original box for your unit, use a double-walled box for extra protection when packing.
- Use labels or tags to mark each wire and corresponding port on the computer, so you can easily connect it up when you arrive in your new home. Creating a diagram or written instructions giving detailed guidelines of how you disconnected the computer may also prove useful.
- Tie all your loose cables securely using zip ties or rubber bands and place them inside a bag which can be taped to the computer so no parts go astray.
- Disconnect the varied parts of the computer and wrap separately in antistatic bubble wrap.
- Line the base of your box with a deep layer of bubble wrap or popcorn and place the computer parts inside with the heaviest at the bottom, carefully fill all spaces with packaging to ensure the parts are protected.
- Seal the box and add a label to ensure it is treated with care during the removal.

Packing your electronic equipment carefully and labeling boxes should help ensure your items arrive at your new home safely. If you're working with professional movers, tell them about your fragile items so they can take extra care. If you've followed the instructions, you should be able to connect everything up quickly in your new home and start enjoying it.

Moving Checklist Link

https://uploads-ssl.webflow.com/5f7b870334e3c0fcb64feceb/5f7c16e6c-2cb990edf19fe84_checklist_ccm.pdf

VI. FAQ's

What packing supplies do I need for moving?

When considering how to pack for a move, you'll need to buy or find items such as boxes, tape, blankets, a moving truck or trailer, and rope for securing loose items.

Where can I get free packing and moving boxes and supplies?

Not recommended for loading a full truck or using professional movers. Moving is a common reality for many of us, which means once someone completes their move, they won't need their supplies any longer. Websites such as Facebook Marketplace or Freecycle are filled with people giving away free supplies. Make sure to check these out a few weeks before Moving Day.

How do you pack dishes for a move?

Layer the bottom of the boxes with packing peanuts or paper. From there, wrap each plate in a layer of bubble wrap then stand the dishes up in the box. This is the best way to keep them secure. And once tightly packed, don't forget to write "FRAGILE" on the box.

How do I organize items before moving?

A great tip is to go room by room and organize items in each into three categories: Items you plan to keep, items you plan to donate, and stuff that goes into the garbage. Organizing before a move makes it much more manageable, as you only take the items you need.

How should I pack a moving truck?

To begin loading a moving truck, you'll want to put the heaviest items such as furniture and appliances into the truck first. Secure them with fasteners so they don't slide around. Next, add in the bulkiest remaining items before filling the truck with boxes. And for luxury/fragile items or electronics, it's ideal to pack them into your vehicle where they remain more secure. Keep in mind we are the professionals and recommend hiring a professional mover for a safe and efficient move.