

How to Pack for a Move: Checklist

Step 1: Create Your Moving Plan

- ☐ Decide on your moving date and timeline
- ☐ Choose DIY vs. professional movers
- ☐ Make a packing calendar

Step 2: Declutter and Organize Before Packing

- ☐ Declutter room by room
- ☐ Create keep, donate, and toss piles
- ☐ Donate, recycle, or dispose responsibly
- ☐ Decide what stays or goes

Step 3: Gather the Right Packing Supplies

- ☐ Boxes (small, medium, large)
- ☐ Packing tape and scissors
- ☐ Bubble wrap or paper
- ☐ Labels and markers
- ☐ Trash bags and zip ties
- ☐ Suitcases, laundry baskets, reusable bins
- ☐ Eco-friendly materials (newspapers, compostable wrap)

Step 4: Follow a Packing Timeline

- ☐ 1 Month Before: Pack non-essentials
- ☐ 2 Weeks Before: Pack less-used rooms
- ☐ 1 Week Before: Pack everyday items
- ☐ Moving Day: Pack final essentials

Step 5: Pack Room by Room

- ☐ Kitchen
- ☐ Bedroom
- ☐ Living Room
- ☐ Bathroom
- ☐ Garage/Attic

Step 6: Protect Fragile and Valuable Items

- ☐ Wrap glass, mirrors, and art
- ☐ Use towels or socks for padding
- ☐ Keep “Do Not Pack” or restricted items separate

Step 7: Label and Track Boxes Efficiently

- ☐ Label by color or number
- ☐ Use QR codes or an inventory spreadsheet
- ☐ Mark priority boxes (“Open First”)

Step 8: Pack an Essentials Box

- ☐ Toiletries and clothes
- ☐ Chargers and devices
- ☐ Snacks and medications
- ☐ Important papers and keys
- ☐ Essentials for kids and pets

Step 9: Moving Day Tips

- ☐ Check inventory before loading
- ☐ Keep valuables with you
- ☐ Manage helpers or movers

Step 10: Unpacking Smartly

- ☐ Unpack priority rooms first
- ☐ Recycle or give away boxes
- ☐ Do a quick post-move cleaning