

Do-It-Yourself Packing Guide

Things you need:

- Standard moving cartons of different sizes that can be taped shut on bottom and top of carton(or with good lids)
- Clean newsprint for wrapping and cushioning
- Tape, marker

Prepare for Packing

- Dispose of unwanted articles at a garage sale or donate them to charity
- Dispose of articles liable to cause damage to the contents of the moving van such as gasoline, propane, fireworks and other hazardous materials
- Do not ship canned or bottled foods during the winter

How to Pack

China and dishes: Place crushed paper in the bottom of carton. Wrap plates well with one or two sheets of newsprint(can pack more than one plate..with paper separating them). Place ON EDGE in carton and pack snug. Fill carton, adding a layer of crushed paper after each tier. Leave space at top of carton for a cushion of paper, make sure top and sides are flat(no bulging) and seal well with tape.

Cups, bowls & odd-shaped pieces: Wrap cups individually and protect handles with extra paper. Place them upside down in carton with handles toward the inside of carton. Wrap and nest bowls into each other and pack ON EDGE.Wrap small items such as sugar bowls lids in coloured tissue paper to avoid losing in the unpacking process.

Small pictures and mirrors: Pack VERTICALLY in a carton, cushioned well with paper, linens or blankets.

Stemware, glasses, figurines, etc.: Wrap individually, protect with plenty of cushioning. Wrap wineglass stems first to cushion them, then wrap entire glass and place OPEN SIDE down in the carton. Mark carton FRAGILE.

Lamps: Remove the bulb and harp and and roll up cord. Wrap the base, bulb, and harp individually and place together in carton. Pack lampshades individually with cushioning at the bottom of the carton but not around the lampshade. You can nest smaller lampshades inside larger ones. Tiffany type and other glass shades and chandeliers should be professionally packed.

Paintings, large mirrors, glass table tops, marble slabs: These items are easily damaged and should be packed or crated professionally. If not crated, they must be packed in telescopic mirror cartons.

Books, records, CDs, DVDs: Pack in smaller cartons. Pack books on edge and wrap valuable books. Pack records, CDs, DVDs on edge on a layer of crushed paper.

Clothing: Can be left in dresser drawers. Clothing that you prefer to keep on hangers may be placed in wardrobe cartons.

Blankets, pillows, linens and towels: Can be left in drawers or packed in cartons.

Tools: Dismantle large tools for moving. Wrap smaller tools and pack in small cartons since they are heavy. Remove all fuel from gasoline-powered tools.

Plants: Plants are shipped at your own risk.

Packing Tips

- Do not over fill or under fill cartons; this practice increases the risk of damage. Tops must close flat and be sealed with tape.
- Pack heavier items on the bottom and lighter items on top. Pack articles snugly so they will not shift.
- Use clean newsprint instead of newspaper to avoid having to wash items after unpacking.
- Wrap small articles in coloured paper so they will not be discarded with packing material.
- Label each carton with room location.
- Take any keys, jewelry, important papers, etc. with you...do not pack in cartons.