

Moving Tips



Before you Move

- ❑ Choose a "packing room" ahead of time and box up a few things each day.
- ❑ Mark each box with its contents and destination room. That way, you and your helpers will know where each box belongs at your new home.
- ❑ Order or make on a computer preprinted address labels with your new address as soon as you know it. It makes the change-of-address process much easier.
- ❑ Obtain estimates from moving companies.
- ❑ Give away, sell or discard any unnecessary belongings.
- ❑ Send out all items for cleaning or in need of repair.
- ❑ Return those items that were borrowed and collect any items loaned out.
- ❑ Dispose of flammable items. Keep a utility log to check service-transfer dates.
- ❑ If you're moving locally, leave the power and water on at your old address a few extra days so you can go back and clean up after your move.
- ❑ Try to arrange your telephone cancellation or transfer for the last possible moment on moving day. You can secure your next number far in advance of your move, and this can often simplify things later.
- ❑ Defrost and clean fridge on day before the move; clean stove.
- ❑ Organize work that has to be completed at your new home.
- ❑ Obtain appraisals for any items of value in case you need to make an insurance claim from the moving company. Pictures are a great benefit here!
- ❑ If moving locally, you may want your pets to spend moving day with a friend. Animals can become confused and frightened during a move.
- ❑ If possible have friends or relatives take care of children elsewhere.
- ❑ If you are renting a moving van, remember to allow for extra braking room when driving a moving van. Anticipate stops and allow a 3-second gap between you and the vehicle in front of you.
- ❑ Most large moving vans require up to 12 feet of overhead clearance. Watch out for drive-thru restaurant and motel over-hangs.

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Packing and Storing.

- ❑ Have on hand heavy twine, masking tape, boxes, and containers for packing.
- ❑ Make sure all fragile and delicate items are indicated.
- ❑ Carry all jewellery, valuable papers and currency with you.
- ❑ Mark contents of all boxes very clearly specifying which room they are to be placed in (this will save you moving them again and again...).
- ❑ Set aside things you will carry in the car in a carton marked "Do Not Load".
- ❑ Indicate which cartons you wish to be unloaded first and unloaded last.
- ❑ Crate glass tabletops, large mirrors & any valuable pictures.
- ❑ Pack all books on edge in small boxes.
- ❑ Limit carton weight to 60 pounds.
- ❑ Tie or tape all boxes securely.
- ❑ Pack Lampshades in boxes by themselves.
- ❑ Small appliances should be packed and wrapped in the bottom of boxes.
- ❑ Make sure heavy china items are placed at the bottom of the box with extra padding.
- ❑ Empty gas tanks from lawn mowers, outboard motors, etc.
- ❑ Remove all batteries from appliances and toys.
- ❑ Tie or tape brooms and mops together and bundle your curtain rods.
- ❑ Ensure that tops are secured for all liquids in bottles.
- ❑ Keep a telephone book with you.
- ❑ Avoid leaving contents in dresser drawers .
- ❑ Try not to use newspapers to pack as the ink may rub off.
- ❑ Do not pack cleaning products in the same boxes as food.
- ❑ On Moving Day Set up bedrooms and kitchens first.
- ❑ Keep a too kit handy

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Hiring a Moving Company?

Local & Long Distance Moving

As a general rule, although each moving company may vary to a certain extent, a local move is considered to be a move within an 80-kilometer (50 mile) radius of the moving company's premises. Therefore long distance would be considered a move outside an 80-kilometer (50 mile) radius of the moving company's premises. The mover must hold appropriate licenses for local and long distance moving. Check with local and provincial authorities if you have any questions!

How The Costs of Your Move Are Typically Calculated

Local Moving costs are calculated on the number of hours the truck is tied up on your move multiplied by the hourly for-hire rate. Generally, the hours are based from the time the truck leaves the moving company's premises until the time it returns.

Long Distance costs are calculated on the weight and distance of your shipment (shipment will be weighed at a government inspection weigh station).

Storage - If your goods are to be placed into storage, make sure the costs of storage are explained to you including loading and unloading fees plus monthly storage rates.

- ❑ Obtain two or three estimates for your move and compare the services offered.
- ❑ Have the contents of your residence/office viewed by a qualified estimator and a written estimate prepared.
- ❑ Book your move as far in advance as possible, even if, in the case of a new home/office, your closing date is not firm. Most movers can be flexible with proper notice.
- ❑ If possible, avoid scheduling your move for the end of the month as this is a busy period for movers. Some movers may offer lower rates at other times of the month.
- ❑ Try to ensure that at least three employees are assigned to your move.
- ❑ Prior to entering into a contract with a mover, make sure you determine what liability the mover will assume in the event of loss or damage. You may find it necessary to make special insurance arrangements.
- ❑ Consider having your goods packed by movers. They are professionals and know how to properly ship and handle your belongings. Ask the mover for the cost of their packing service.
- ❑ Damage to goods packed by you is your responsibility and not the mover's unless the mover has been negligent in the care of the boxes packed.
- ❑ Be cautious - A mover whose estimated cost for your move is far below that of your other estimates may spell trouble.