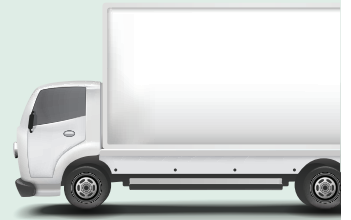


# SHARE THIS!

## 12 Tips to Make Moving Easier



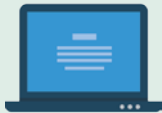
Want to reduce the headache of moving into a new home? Follow these tips:

### BEFORE YOU PACK

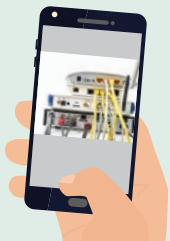
**1 Plan your move well in advance.** This will help you avoid a last-minute frenzy.



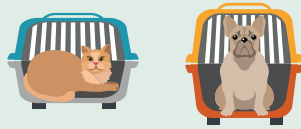
For a timeline and checklist, visit [upack.com/sites/default/files/pdf/MovingChecklist.pdf](http://upack.com/sites/default/files/pdf/MovingChecklist.pdf)



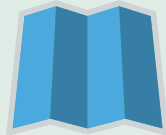
**2 Protect critical photos and files.** Store copies on a portable hard drive you carry with you, or upload them to a free cloud server such as Google Drive or Dropbox.



**3 Photograph your cords.** Shoot images of the connections on your television, sound system, modem and computer so they're easier to reconnect in your new home.



**4 Make plans for pets.** Reduce your pets' moving stress by boarding them at a kennel or with friends.



**5 Get a Movers Guide from the Post Office.** This will help you notify service providers of your new address. It also includes \$750 in coupons for businesses and services you might need. Your post office has printed copies or you can fill out a digital version at <https://moversguide.usps.com>

### WHILE YOU PACK



**6 Color-code your packing boxes.** This will make it easy to match them to the right rooms in your new home.



**7 Mark essential boxes separately.** Anything you'll need immediately after move-in should be marked in red. And make sure the important boxes get loaded last so they come off the truck first.



**8 Create a first-night box of essentials.** Include medications, toothbrushes, changes of clothing and anything else you'll need immediately.

### DURING THE MOVE

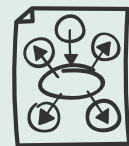
**9 Don't box valuables or important documents.**



Put jewelry, passports, birth certificates etc. in a special Move File and hand-carry them in your own car.



**10 Pack a first-day cleaning kit.** Include a vacuum and cleaning supplies so you can freshen cabinets, closets and counters before you move your possessions in.



**11 Make a furniture map.** Plot where all the large furniture pieces will go to simplify set-up. You can use graph paper or a free layout tool like [homedairy.com](http://homedairy.com).

### AFTER THE MOVE



**12 Save all receipts.** If your move is associated with a new job or a transfer, you may be able to deduct some of the costs.