

Tips for Making Your Move Smooth and Organized

- **DOWNSIZE AS YOU PACK**

Carefully go through items as you pack, discarding anything you do not need or want. This can help avoid clutter in your new home, as well as help avoid adding things to sort through later. This will not only lighten your load, but will also eliminate wondering where to store excess things you do not need when settling in.

- **HIRE HELP**

Consider hiring an expert professional downsizer who can help you sort and organize the items you want to keep, sell, donate, give away or toss. You may also want to engage an auctioneer, as well as residential packers/movers.

- **CREATE A FLOOR PLAN FOR YOUR NEW SPACE**

This is very important when moving to a smaller home. You need to know how your furniture will fit. Measure everything, especially large pieces like your sofa and bed. This will also help you determine the furniture placement to maximize your space.

- **HAVE AN ESSENTIALS BOX**

Put all your important paperwork, prescriptions, eyeglasses, hearing aids, legal documents and insurance information in an essentials box and label it accordingly. Keep it with you during the move.

- **HAND PACK VALUABLES AND DELICATES**

In just about any move, items can get lost, as well as damaged. Pack fragile items in separate boxes or containers and be sure to label the package "fragile" so they will be handled with care.

- **CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS**

Stop by the post office and pick up your change of address forms or simply go online to the U.S. Postal Service to take care of this step. This ensures your mail will follow you to your new home, and you won't be left wondering where your bills and magazines are.

- **MOVE YOUR MEDICATIONS**

Make sure you have enough of your medications to get through the move, but go ahead and transfer all your prescriptions to a local pharmacy near your new home.

- **MANAGE UTILITIES**

Make arrangements to turn off utilities at your current residence to avoid paying for those days after you have moved out.

- **MAKE A SHOPPING LIST**

As you pack, keep a notepad handy to jot down things you are almost out of or want to replace. This could be anything from household cleaners to new curtains to match your new home.



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