

## **MOVING TIPS**

- For apartment moves with an elevator, reserve the elevator and loading dock at least two weeks prior to your move date
- Look for a company with over 10 years of professional moving experience
- Make sure the moving company has insurance (General Liability, Cargo and Automobile)
- Make sure moving company has an active DOT number and MC number
- If possible, book a moving company at least four weeks in advance
- Make your last trip to the grocery store 2-3 weeks before moving to prevent wasting food
- Take a photo of how your electronic wires are connected to remember how (and where) the wires will need to be reinstalled
- Remove televisions from the wall mounts
- If you're going to paint rooms in new home, mix vanilla extract in paint to make the paint less odorous and to make rooms smell amazing
- Fill nail holes in old home with bar soap
- Change mailing address at least 2-3 weeks before moving
- If you're renting, be sure to take photos of your old home once it's cleaned out
- Make arrangements to have old home professionally cleaned
- If moving a refrigerator and/or freezer, make sure they are defrosted
- If moving a washing machine/dryer, make sure the air vent and water line is shut off and disconnected
- If able, pre-clean the bathroom and kitchen in your new home prior to move
- Secure a babysitter for children and pet sitter for pets for the day of the move
- Hang shower curtains, new bath towels and toilet paper inside new home ahead of your move

## **PACKING TIPS**

- Start packing at least 3-6 weeks in advance of your move date, depending on size of home
- Save money on boxes get free boxes from local grocery stores
- Get rid of all unwanted items. Create donation bins/boxes for clothing, toys, etc., and
  place those items in an isolated area inside your residence. Then, set an appointment
  with your local Salvation Army, Purple Heart, Goodwill, etc. to pick up your donated
  items
- Roll sharp objects like knives into oven mitts or towels and secure with tape to avoid cutting yourself when unpacking
- Label the sides of boxes (not the tops) with a brief description of what's contained inside of the boxes along with the name of the room in which they should be placed. Also, be sure to mark boxes containing fragile items with a "fragile" label



## PACKING TIPS, cont'd.

- Apply different colored tape or colored markers on boxes for each room
- Choose one room at a time to conquer (the kitchen is typically the most time consuming to pack)
- Store seasonal clothing and décor and any office equipment inside durable storage bins like those found at Home Depot or Lowes. Unlike boxes, storage bins don't easily break down and can be stored in your home for many years. \*Bonus- use different colored bins for each room of the house
- Think about selling unwanted items on Craigslist, Amazon, Offer Up, eBay, etc.
- Bubble wrap can be very expensive, so kill two birds with one stone by using towels and/or cloths to protect fragile items inside the box
- Double wrap all fragile items individually
- Place clothes on hangers and cover with trash bags and then tie together (wardrobe boxes work well too)
- Place hardware like screws from bed, curtain rods, tv mounts, etc. into sandwich bags to keep from losing
- Pack books, canned goods, paperwork or anything heavy into small boxes to keep from bursting through the bottom of the boxes
- Pack kitchen items such as pots, pans, plates, cups, mugs, saucers, etc. in medium boxes---heavier items at the bottom and lighter items such as plasticware at the top (dishpacks can be used for china and expensive dishes)
- Pack lighter items such as clothes, linens, towels, comforters, sheets in storage bins
- If heavy items won't fit into medium or small boxes, place them inside the bottom of large boxes and pack all light items on top; be sure to double tape the inside of the boxes first
- Use suitcases, laundry bins, hampers to cut down on purchasing boxes
- Keep all cords/remotes, etc. for electronic devices together in one box
- Be sure to secure all boxes with tape at the bottom (triple layered with tape) and double layered with tape at the top before the movers arrive and don't leave any boxes open
- Make your first week in your new home a breeze by packing an "open first" box or suitcase full of toilet paper, toiletries, towels and washcloths, contact paper, scissors, paper towels, disposable plates, cutlery, and cups to give you a kickstart until you're ready to unpack. Place your "open first" box inside your personal vehicle
- Separate all important documents, medicine, vitamins, etc. and pack into a personal box to be placed inside your vehicle
- Pack a personal bag of clothes and laptop for easy access and place inside your vehicle
- Place cleaning supplies inside a sealed-tight bag and pack them inside a small Bankers box. Be sure to tape the tops to prevent leaking. Label the box "cleaning supplies" and place the box inside your personal vehicle on the day of your move

<sup>\*</sup>Per DOT regulations, movers cannot transport flammable materials in their moving trucks. Any flammable liquids (alcohol, cleaning supplies, etc.) must be transported by the client.