Packing Hints & Tips

These hints were designed to assist you in your packing efforts. If you have any questions, please feel free to consult our expert consultants!**For the convenience of our customers, we carry a complete line of competitively priced packing supplies to ease packing efforts**

Materials: Much of the secret to packing is having the right materials to work with. To pack household goods safely and efficiently, the following items are necessary:
• Plenty of clean packing paper (avoid using newspaper as the ink rubs off and gets your items dirty)
• Good sturdy cartons in a variety of sizes with tops intact
• Carton sealing tape (we recommend plastic PVC tape for its greater strength and lower price)
• Marker for labeling cartons (it is best to write/label on the sides for easy viewing)

Packing Service: Expert technicians are available to assist you in packing efforts. We can pack a few select items to an entire household usually in less than a day

Unpacking Service: An often overlooked but attractive alternative to piles and piles of boxes. We unpack everything, place it where you want it (with your assistance) and remove the packing materials.
**Note: If you choose to do the unpacking yourself, please be careful! More damage occurs during unpacking than during packing. It is very important that you go through every piece of paper. Customers frequently throw items away because the paper is not gone through thoroughly

Rentals: Specialty cartons such as mirror packs, mattress and wardrobe cartons can be rented for a fraction of the purchase price on the day of the move.

Sealed Cartons: For safe transportation and efficient handling, all box tops and bottoms should be sealed and in stackable condition. No objects should be protruding from the top/sides. Open top boxes are not permitted on the trucks. **Make sure to label all the boxes as to the general contents and to what room it belongs on the side of the box! **Absolutely NO flammable items are allowed on the truck**.

Start Packing Early! On average, you will pack about 10 cartons per room. Start in areas which aren't frequently used such as the basement, attic, garage, closet shelves, etc.

Bedding: Place bedding in clean cartons. Light articles such as blankets or pillows may be put into dresser drawers

Books: Books should be packed in small, strong, securely sealed cartons. They should be placed cover to cover, alternating the bindings to prevent the pages from becoming interlocked and damaged. Wrap valuable books individually. **Do not pack books in furniture drawers or leave them in bookcases/bookshelves

Canned Goods: Pack upright in small, durable cartons. DO NOT pack beyond the limit of portability (50 pounds to each container) Approximately 24 cans should be ample.

China: Wrap China and all fragile object in paper individually. Large plates and heavy pieces should be placed on the bottom of the container, on edge. Plates and dishes should be placed in a vertical position with packing paper in between. Use packing paper to cushion the bottom of the container and in between the layers. DO NOT pack above the edge of the container

Clothing: For a nominal charge, our men will move your clothing on hangers, from the closets directly to wardrobes furnished by us. Wardrobes will hold approximately 25-30 hangers depending on the size of the garments. Your clothing will reach you in clean and wrinkle-free condition!

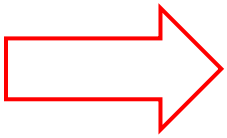
Curtains: Curtains must be removed from the rods and folded neatly in drawers or clean tissue-lined cartons before the moving day.

Extraordinary Valued Items: For a nominal fee, DuFrane will paper pad or crate these items (Paintings, antiques, etc.). Crating will provide additional protection for these valued items.

Food: Dispose of food in open containers that might spill or spoil in transit. The carrier will not be liable for damage caused by food spilling on other items. Perishable food should never be stored or shipped.

Freezers: Freezers must be completely defrosted one or two days prior to moving and air dried to avoid musty odors and water drippings. Safety of contents cannot be guaranteed so it is best to transport an empty freezer and plan meals that will use up perishable contents. Use a cooler to transport the remaining items.

Furniture Contents: All items must be removed from all drawers, contents behind cabinet doors, desks, wardrobes/armoires. No furniture pieces may remain full.



Glass Shelves and Glass Tops to Furniture: Glass tops should be packed in mirror packs to prevent damage. Cartons are available for self-packing, or we can perform this service for you.

Jewelry: Keep valuable jewelry in your immediate possession. Carriers are not liable. We recommend you transport them to precent disorganization within the jewelry chest or cabinet.

Kitchen Utensils: Kitchen utensils should be clean and placed in cartons. Durable, heavy pieces should be placed on the bottom, light ones on the top with each piece padded against dents, chipping, or scratching. Toasters, irons, waffle irons, mixers, etc. may be wrapped individually and placed in cartons with other kitchen utensils.

Lamps: Remove ornamental tops and put in a safe place, one you will remember! Small table lamps and all floor lamps need to be placed in cartons for safe moving. Lampshades should be wrapped in clean white tissue paper, placed in cartons, and marked "fragile". DO NOT use newsprint. They may be nested but do not pack them as to tear lining or puncture parchment shades.

Linens: Table and bed lines should be put into strong cartons. They should be lined with tissue or clean white or brown paper to protect from dust. DO NOT use newsprint as a liner, the ink may soil fabric.

Mattresses: We will protect your mattress inside a carton for a small fee. DO NOT try to roll or handle as this may result in damaged springs/fabric.

Medicines: Seal bottles and jar stoppers. Wrap individually, placing them upright into small cartons.

Mirrors: For storage or moving, they must be boxed for safe handling. The movers will remove wall mirrors if they are not fastened to walls at the old residence. Mirror tops on furniture will be taken off and replaced at destination.

Mowers & Gasoline Powered Tools: Gas tanks should be drained, and oil reservoirs emptied. No flammable mixtures or articles may be transported by public carriers.

Power Tools: Grinders, saws, cordless drills, etc. must be packed into cartons. These items need to be packed in cartons even if they are in a carrying case.

Paintings/Pictures: Small pictures can be safely placed between the folds of blankets or pillows in drawers or cartons. Large, valuable pictures and paintings must be wrapped and boxed for moving.

Plants: We do not assume responsibility for living plants. However, we will transport them at your request when placed in cartons.

Records: Pack records on end, side by side, to provide the greatest resistance to weight pressure. Use small cartons only.

Refrigerators: Defrost and thoroughly dry your refrigerator before moving. This is very important! The doors should be left open several hours to air after defrosting. All pans, trays, crispers, shelves, or removable parts should be secured or removed. Refrigerator and freezer chemicals may take up to 24 hours to settle, therefore you may not be able to operate appliances until this has occurred.

Rugs: It is not necessary to remove rugs from floors, our men will do this for you! They will be rolled and wrapped.

Silverware: Leave in original containers or wrap in cloth, low sulfur-content paper or tissue and pack in boxes. Place padding in silver chests to prevent moving and scratching.

Televisions: All portables should be packed in cartons to prevent damage

Toiletry Items: Seal the corks and stoppers of cosmetics, medicines, and perfume bottles with masking tape before wrapping separately in paper and placing upright in cartons

Tools: If valuable, wrap separately. Tools, as a rule, can be put into small, strong cartons without wrapping individually.

Upholstered Items: Sofas, chairs, etc. may be shrink-wrapped for a nominal fee. Shrink-wrapping is highly recommended for light colored, leather, velvet, or delicate upholstery

Valuables: Legal documents, all-important papers, jewels, and currency should be handled by you personally. Keep them in your immediate possession. Carriers are not liable