

AAA Moving & Storage is proud to offer packing as a service to our customers. Our experienced professionals handle this sometimes overwhelming task with ease and care. A good packing job does more than protect your belongings, it can make your move and transition more efficient.

A AAA professional can provide you with an estimate for packing your home. We are also available to pack a portion of your home. You may decide that it is more cost effective for us to pack only your most valuable and fragile items.

If you decide, however, that you are packing your home yourself, the below tips may be of help to you during this process.

**Use the proper packing materials** - Using the right materials will pay off in the long run. AAA has available a complete supply of items needed for your packing job at nominal fees. You may visit our warehouse to purchase materials or call for home delivery. Our trucks and vans are also equipped with supplies that can be purchased. A price list for supplies is available.

Here are some items that will make your packing job easier and run smoothly:

- Note pad
- Dark, water-resistant marker
- Boxes of all sizes
- Packing tape
- Bubble wrap
- Packing peanuts
- Scissors/box opener
- Black felt or other paper

**Pack one room at a time** - Label each box with the following:

- Write the name of the room that the box belongs to on all sides of the box.
- Label the box as FRAGILE if the contents of the box could be broken or damaged during a move.
- If the box needs to stay positioned with a certain side up, please label the box with arrows indicating which end should remain up.

**Keep a list** - Keep a detailed list of all items that are in each box.

**Empty all drawers** - Empty all drawers of breakable items or items that may spill or leak. To safeguard against unnecessary damage, it's a good idea to put all furniture knobs, feet, screws, etc. in one container that you can keep with you.

**Do not pack flammable goods** - Heat-sensitive items like candles, records, audio and video tapes, computer disks, propane tanks, aerosol cans, oil-based paints, and certain cleaning fluids should not be packed. A complete list of items that should not be moved can be found in the "What Not to Pack" section of this brochure.

**Wrap items individually** - Always place a layer of crushed paper in the bottom of the carton for cushioning. Fill empty spaces with additional crushed paper. Packed boxes should not rattle.

**Make sure cartons are firmly packed** - Heavier items should be placed on the bottom and lighter ones on top.

**Pack according to the season** - If you will be putting some boxes in storage, label the boxes with the appropriate season.

**Put heavy items in small boxes** - Heavy items should be placed in the smallest box possible, so that they are easier to carry. Boxes should weigh no more than 50 pounds.

**Know which items you will need first** - Make sure the items you will need first, such as kids toys, kitchen items,

and telephones are packed together and labeled appropriately. Your driver will load these items last when packing the truck, so they will be first off the truck at your new destination.

**Plan for your valuables** - Valuables such as securities, furs, jewelry, coin or stamp collections, and legal papers should not be packed on the moving truck.

**Appliances** - Appliances should be clean, dry, and disconnected for moving day. You are responsible for the disconnection and reconnection of all appliances.

**Fine silver** - It is best to wrap each piece of silver in a soft cloth or special silver paper to avoid discoloration or tarnishing. Make sure your silver is clean before packing and do not secure it with rubber bands.

**Properly box large pictures and mirrors** - These items need to be packed in special cartons for safety. Wrapping mirrors or pictures in moving pads or blankets, places these items at risk for damage. These boxes are available for purchase prior to your move. Each AAA truck, however, is equipped with a small supply of picture boxes available for purchase on the day of the move.

**Storage equipment** - Before moving equipment stored in your garage or storage shed, make sure it is clean and in sound condition. Drain garden hoses and clean out flower and plant containers. Gasoline powered equipment, lawn mowers, motorcycles, weed eaters, etc. must be emptied of all fuel and oil. Propane or other equipment must be purged.

**Plan ahead** - Decide what you will need the first day after your move. Packing a separate bag with your toiletries, a change of clothes, etc. will prevent unnecessary scrambling or a run to the local store.

## **WHAT NOT TO PACK**

At AAA Moving & Storage, we want to make sure that items are safely delivered to your destination. We use a safety first method to assure that our employee's and your belongings are well taken care of in a professional manner. It is dangerous and illegal to pack and move hazardous materials. Heat from the sun can raise temperatures inside a closed moving van to well over 150 degrees. Any article which may become explosive is prohibited from being placed in your shipment.

### **The following items should not be packed:**

**Corrosives** - household cleaners, acids, liquid plumber and car or boat batteries.

**Explosives** - ammunition, bullets, flares, fireworks and detonators.

**Flammable Liquids** - gasoline, lighter fluid, paint, paint thinner, glue, kerosene, acetone (includes nail polish remover), tar remover, turpentine, lacquer remover, alcohol and lamp oils.

**Flammable Solids** - matches and fuel tablets.

**Gases** - either pressured or liquefied, propane tanks, oxygen, helium, household fuel, aerosol cans, paint cleaner and butane lighters.

**Liquids** - wine, beer and alcohol.

**Oxidizers** - bleach, disinfectants, organic peroxides, fertilizers, pool chemicals and chlorine in any form.

**Poisons** - pesticides, herbicides, fumigants and photographic chemicals.

**Aerosol cans** - any aerosol can including but not limited to hair spray, shaving cream, deodorants, insecticides, cleaning products, spray starch, spray paint

**Additional Items** - any other items that might be susceptible to combustion, like oily rags and charcoal, should not be packed for shipping.