

How To Move Plants - Fragile Removals

Canonical: <https://www.fragileremovals.com.au/moving-house/how-to-move-plants/>

Details:

Decide which plants you are entitled to take, whether they can travel along your route and how they will be cared for before you pack them. Potted plants, in-ground plants, soil and the containers themselves can raise different questions. A removal booking does not establish permission to remove a plant from a property or permission to transport it across a quarantine boundary.

Confirm which plants belong in the move

Check the sale, tenancy or other property agreement before removing plants. Settle which in-ground plants, pots and containers are included in the property arrangement. If there is doubt about a favourite rose bush, a large pot or a plant shown during inspections, obtain written agreement through the relevant property contact before acting.

Make a list of the plants you intend to move and identify any that need specialist care. Include the pot size, overall height, approximate loaded weight where known and whether the container is fragile. Tell the removalist about the list rather than adding plants to the load without discussion.

If a plant cannot travel or cannot be removed under the agreement, arrange an alternative before moving day. Giving it to a friend or leaving it with an agreed recipient may be possible, but confirm acceptance and any applicable movement restrictions for that alternative too.

Check restrictions for the whole journey

Plant quarantine controls help prevent pests, weeds and diseases from spreading. Restrictions can apply between states and within particular regions. Check the current requirements for the destination and any places the load will pass through; a local-looking journey does not automatically avoid every restriction.

Use the Australian Interstate Quarantine guidance to find the relevant state or territory information. Describe the actual plant, soil and container when asking what is permitted. Do not infer that every plant is prohibited or that every potted houseplant is allowed.

Confirm whether the carrier accepts the plants as well as whether the route permits them. If a rule, inspection or document requirement is unclear, settle it before collection. Packing a plant inside a box does not remove the obligation to comply with the applicable requirements.

Choose preparation for the particular plant

Assess pruning, repotting, pest checks and watering for each plant rather than treating them as a compulsory routine. Seek horticultural advice where the plant's needs are uncertain, especially for valuable or sensitive specimens.

Pruning may reduce the space a plant occupies, but the timing and extent must suit the species and its condition. Removing dead material can also make inspection easier where appropriate. Do not assume every plant will recover from cutting simply because it is being moved.

Plastic pots can reduce the breakage concern associated with ceramic or clay containers, but repotting can itself disturb a plant. Decide whether repotting is appropriate before the move rather than changing

every container at the last moment. If a fragile pot will travel, tell the team and discuss suitable protection and support.

Inspect plants and containers for signs of pests. A visual check is useful preparation but does not replace quarantine requirements or certify that a plant is pest-free. If you find a concern, obtain appropriate advice before transporting it to a new garden.

Pack and load only after acceptance is confirmed

Plan watering according to the plant's normal needs and the journey conditions. Avoid an arbitrary rule that every plant must be watered immediately before loading. Tell the team if a container is wet or liable to leak, and agree a way to protect surrounding belongings without compromising the plant's needs.

Use containers or boxes that can support the intended load and allow appropriate handling. Inspect their condition and reinforce closures where suitable. Do not overfill a box or assume that tape can make an unsuitable box safe. Separate fragile pots from pressure points and make the contents clear to the people handling them.

Agree the loading and delivery sequence so accepted plants can receive appropriate care promptly on arrival. Confirm how that fits the vehicle and route; do not assume a plant can be placed anywhere or kept in the vehicle for an unspecified period.

For a large, heavy or awkward planter, request an assessment before moving day. The soil and container contribute to the handling load. Do not rely on the plant's visible size alone when deciding whether you can move it or whether the removalist's quoted scope covers it.

Prepare the destination and the first care check

Decide where accepted plants will go before delivery so they can be placed without unnecessary handling. Match the location and immediate care to the plant rather than assuming all plants need direct sunlight or another watering as soon as they arrive.

Check the plant and pot after delivery, record any damage and contact the moving company promptly if a handling issue needs follow-up. If the plant appears unwell, seek suitable horticultural advice; a general moving guide cannot diagnose the cause or promise recovery.

If delivery is delayed, contact the carrier to discuss the revised plan and the plants' needs. Do not assume general household storage accepts living plants or provides the conditions they require. Confirm an appropriate arrangement before collection whenever the two properties' dates do not align.

Coordinate plants with the rest of the household

Use the moving house checklist to assign responsibility for the plant list, permissions, quarantine checks and arrival care. Keep any relevant instructions accessible rather than inside a sealed removal box. Tell the person meeting the delivery which containers need particular attention.

We handle local and interstate move enquiries. Give us both addresses, preferred dates and the services required so we can confirm availability and the proposed route in writing. Ask us to confirm plant acceptance for your service and journey through our contact page or on 1800 500 584 . Include the plant list when you enquire so the route and care requirements can be assessed before booking.

Can I take every potted plant to another state?

No. A plant's acceptance depends on the species, soil, container, destination and route, and restrictions can also exist within a state. Check the current requirements with the relevant authority and

separately ask whether the carrier accepts the plant under the proposed transport conditions. Prepare a list and photographs if identification is needed. Resolve those questions before packing or promising the plants will travel. If a plant cannot go, arrange an accepted alternative before collection rather than hiding it among household cartons.

Should every plant be pruned and repotted before moving?

No. Pruning and repotting should suit the species, its condition and the time available before travel. A last-minute change is not automatically helpful, so get appropriate horticultural advice if unsure. Assess the pot's stability, weight and risk of leakage, and tell the moving team about large or awkward containers. Plan watering around the plant's normal needs and journey conditions. Confirm packing, ventilation and delivery arrangements with the accepted carrier instead of applying one preparation routine to every plant.

Can I remove plants from the garden when I sell or leave a property?

Check the sale, tenancy or other property agreement and resolve the particular plant with the authorised property contact before removing it. A general distinction between pots and garden beds does not settle every ownership or inclusion question. Identify any disputed favourite plant or large planter early and obtain required agreement in writing. Keep confirmed plants on the inventory and anything staying behind clearly separate. The moving crew should receive an agreed instruction rather than being expected to interpret the property arrangement on collection day.

Can living plants wait in household storage?

Do not assume so. Living plants need appropriate conditions and care, and general household storage may not accept them or provide what they require. Explain the species, size, expected storage period and delivery uncertainty before booking. Confirm who is responsible for care and when the plant can be accessed. If suitable acceptance and care are not established, arrange a separate plan with an appropriate person or provider. Keep that arrangement distinct from the furniture booking so a delayed move does not leave the plants without care.

How should I organise plant collection and arrival?

Once transport acceptance is confirmed, identify each plant and container and agree how it will be supported without leaking onto other goods. Tell the team about fragile pots and heavy planters. Discuss loading and unloading order so plants can be attended to promptly on arrival, subject to the vehicle and route. Have an appropriate destination position and responsible person ready. Keep any required documentation accessible and update the carrier if the route, delivery date or plant list changes.