

How To Move House Efficiently | Smart Moving Guide

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Details:

Moving house is no easy task.

It can be complex, tiring and stressful all at once.

Generally speaking, the larger your house, the more things you have to pack up and move.

However, even packing up and moving from a smaller house can be a lot of work.

There are ways you can make the job a little easier, though.

Here are eight top tips to help you move house efficiently.

1. Book a professional mover

A professional moving service can coordinate the agreed handling and transport tasks. Confirm the scope and timing for your actual inventory and access.

Don't risk putting your back out trying to take your fridge down the stairs by yourself or waste time making many, many trips to your new house with items stacked up in your car.

2. Get packing as early as possible

The sooner you get started on your packing, the better. This will help minimise any last-minute stress later in the process. Don't underestimate how long packing up a house can take.

3. Pack your least-used items first

We all have things lying around the house that we rarely see or use – but don't want to get rid of.

Some of these items might even be seasonal ones, like Christmas decorations stacked in the back of a cupboard.

Pack your least-used items first, before working your way through the house and leaving your most-used items until last.

4. Declutter as you go

One key way to move house more efficiently is by having less things to move.

When you start going through your house, consider if there are items you no longer need or want and if they could be sold, given away, donated to charity or placed in your recycling or rubbish bins.

5. Label your boxes well

Labelling all your boxes with the rooms they need to go into at your new house will help make your move a lot more efficient.

Don't just write 'Books' on a box and expect your movers to know where to put that box on arrival to your new house.

If you want those books placed in your master bedroom, write 'Master Bedroom' on the box.

6. Agree clear carton and assembly areas

Choose carton positions for the actual layout, keeping doors, walking routes and furniture assembly areas clear. Agree these positions with the delivery team before unloading.

If a bed needs reassembly, agree a suitable clear working area.

Place boxes where they do not obstruct the agreed assembly space, doors or walking routes; the centre of every room is not always the right location.

7. Agree preparation for drawers and clothing

Discuss dresser preparation with the mover and follow the maker's instructions. Emptying contents can reduce handling weight, but confirm whether drawers should be removed or secured for the particular piece. Pack clothing in suitable boxes rather than assuming a fixed four or five boxes suits every dresser. If drawers travel separately, agree protection compatible with their finish and the load arrangement.

8. Pack an overnight bag

Moving day can be full-on and at the end of the day when you want to go to bed you don't want to be searching around for sheets, pyjamas, medication, a phone charger or a toothbrush.

Pack anything you will need that night or the next morning in a separate bag and keep it close.

Need help moving house efficiently?

At Fragile Removals & Storage, we are moving experts and can help you move house efficiently.

For a competitive quote or to book your next move, contact us today on 1800 500 584

Reduce repeated handling with one destination plan

Before collection, decide where the main furniture will go and give rooms consistent names. Mark the names on boxes and share the plan with the person receiving delivery. Where the layout is unresolved, identify the decision that still needs to be made rather than asking the crew to move the same piece repeatedly.

Check dimensions and access for larger furniture using the measuring guide . A floor-plan decision is useful only if the piece can reach the intended position. Tell the mover about stairs, lifts and restricted access before the day of the move.

Keep one inventory and one current set of instructions

Update the inventory when something is sold, donated or added. Give the revised information to the mover before collection rather than relying on an old quote. Keep items that stay behind clearly separated from those travelling to the new address.

Choose one adult contact for booking and access questions. Helpers can still perform individual tasks, but the crew should not receive conflicting instructions about what to load or where it belongs. Keep the accepted scope and any variations available to that contact.

Use a packing order that preserves daily use

Pack least-used goods first and keep a deliberate list of items needed until departure. Label completed boxes immediately so they do not become an unidentified group in the hallway. Keep the main access route clear while the packing area grows.

Check packing times against your actual contents and availability. If a fragile collection or awkward item needs professional packing, arrange it before the final day. Finishing quickly is not useful if the boxes need to be reopened and repacked because the protection is unsuitable.

Agree arrival priorities before the truck is unloaded

Identify the furniture that affects the placement of other goods, such as a bed that needs an assembly area. Explain where boxes can stand while leaving access and working space available. Use the room's actual layout instead of a universal rule to put everything in the centre or against a wall.

Keep first-needed boxes identifiable, but retain journey essentials outside the load. An interstate delivery window may mean you need those essentials before the boxes arrive. Use the moving checklist to track keys, care arrangements and the person meeting delivery.

Escalate changes while there is still time to adapt

If packing is incomplete, the destination is delayed or a lift is unavailable, contact the mover as soon as you know. Agree revised scope, access or storage arrangements before dispatch where possible. Do not expect the original plan to absorb every change without an effect on timing or price.

At delivery, check the inventory and raise concerns promptly. After the crew finishes, work through the room labels and priority boxes rather than opening everything at once. Complete account updates through the change-of-address checklist so the practical administration is not lost behind the unpacking.

Should boxes always go in the middle of each room?

No. Choose carton positions for the actual room layout and the work still to be done. A bedroom may need clear floor space for bed assembly, while doors, hallways and walking routes must remain usable. Agree the placement with the receiving contact and crew before boxes accumulate. Use destination labels and identify first-needed cartons so they remain accessible. The goal is to avoid moving the same boxes repeatedly, not to follow a centre-of-the-room rule that obstructs the job.

How many boxes should I use for a dresser's contents?

Use enough suitable cartons for the actual clothing and other contents, following the boxes' loading guidance. A fixed four-or-five-box allowance cannot fit every dresser. Ask the mover and check the furniture maker's instructions about emptying, removing or securing drawers for that piece. Keep any separately packed drawers or fittings identified and protected to suit their finish. Update the inventory if extra cartons are needed, and do not leave a dresser loaded simply to save box space without agreement.

Who should give instructions to the moving crew?

Nominate one adult contact who can use the agreed inventory and room plan to coordinate access and placement decisions. Other helpers can assist, but conflicting directions slow the work and can put items in the wrong rooms. Give the contact booking details, special-item notes and the authority to refer changes to the coordinator. If collection and delivery use different people, hand over the same current plan and contact information so the instructions remain consistent.

What packing order supports an efficient move?

Start with little-used and seasonal belongings, then work through rooms while leaving everyday essentials until last. Decide what will stay or leave through another arrangement before buying protection for everything. Label each carton for the destination room and brief contents, and keep storage goods distinct. Allow time for fragile items and furniture preparation. If you discover more goods than quoted, update the mover early so the vehicle and service plan match the final load.

How can I reduce repeat handling at the new home?

Choose furniture positions and a practical carton area in each room before delivery where possible. Share the room labels and floor plan with the receiving contact and crew, keeping assembly spaces and access clear. Identify first-needed cartons and any items going to storage. Confirm what unpacking or reassembly is actually included so those tasks can be sequenced. A clear destination for each item reduces unnecessary shifting while allowing the team to adapt to the actual layout.