

Things Not To Pack When Moving | Fragile Removals

Canonical: <https://www.fragileremovals.com.au/moving-tips/things-you-shouldnt-pack-when-moving-and-why/>

Details:

Not everything you own should be packed away for your removalist to pick up and move to your new property.

Some items need a separate transport or disposal arrangement, while others are better kept accessible or left out of the move. Acceptance depends on the goods, service and applicable requirements.

Here are some of the top things that you shouldn't pack when you are preparing for a move – and why.

1. Irreplaceable valuables, heirlooms or important documents

At Fragile Removals, we do our very best to keep your items safe and secure throughout the moving process. However, it is often best to keep your most prized, valuable and important possessions with you during a move, to minimise the risk of them being misplaced or damaged. This can include your jewellery, family heirlooms and any other important documents or items.

2. Hazardous chemicals

Most households have many hazardous chemicals lurking in the cupboards which can be very dangerous to transport and many removalists will therefore refuse to take these on-board. These can include common household cleaning chemicals like bleach, outdoor chemicals like weed killers, pesticides and pool chemicals, beauty products like nail polish remover and aerosols and garage items like motor oil and paint thinner. Fire extinguishers, batteries, firearms and ammunition also require specific checks; do not place them in ordinary household boxes without an accepted arrangement that meets applicable requirements. If there are any similar items that you are unsure if you can pack or not, be sure to check with your removalist first.

3. Food and other perishable goods

Do not assume an ordinary moving truck provides refrigerated or temperature-controlled transport. Therefore, it is not a good idea to have your removalists transport perishable food and other items. Even for shorter local moves, fresh or frozen items can quickly go off. Even many common pantry items are supposed to be stored under a certain temperature, which cannot be guaranteed in a moving truck. Be smart with your purchases of perishable items in the days and weeks leading up to your move and consider giving away any excess items which you can't take with you to friends, neighbours or a local food bank.

4. Plants

Plants need a transport plan suited to their type and condition. A household truck does not establish suitable care or growing conditions during the journey. Particularly when it comes to interstate moves, plants could be stuck in a truck without sunlight or water for days and they could wilt or completely die.

during that time. Check the destination's plant and soil restrictions and the mover's acceptance before choosing transport. If a suitable arrangement is not available, consider an appropriate local alternative such as giving the plant to someone who can care for it.

5. Unnecessary or unwanted items

Reducing the goods can reduce the work involved. Ask whether the change affects your actual quote rather than assuming an automatic saving. Be sure to donate or discard any items you no longer need or want, rather than packing them away for your removalists to collect. Moving house provides a good chance to declutter and get rid of any items which you haven't seen or used in years.

Looking for an easy way to move?

If you are ready to make your next move, look no further than Fragile Removals & Storage to help get you there.

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.

We can handle both local and interstate moves and offer a premium level of service at a highly competitive price.

For a free quote, call us today on 1800 500 584

Make the exclusion check before filling boxes

Walk through the kitchen, bathroom, garage, garden storage and other areas where restricted or sensitive goods may be kept. Make a list of products you are unsure about and ask the mover about them while there is time to arrange an alternative. An unidentified sealed box makes the decision harder for everyone.

Keep product names and labels available for the discussion. Cleaning chemicals, bleach, weed killers, pesticides, pool chemicals, nail polish remover, aerosols, motor oil and paint thinner are examples that warrant an acceptance check. Do not infer that a familiar household use makes a product suitable for ordinary removal transport.

Avoid mixing, decanting or disguising unwanted products. Follow the product's handling instructions and the relevant local disposal guidance. A rejected item does not automatically become suitable to carry in your own vehicle; establish the requirements for the alternative as well.

Separate personal essentials from excluded goods

Important documents, jewellery and irreplaceable belongings are a different decision from hazardous products. They may need to stay with you for access or security reasons even when a transport option exists. Choose an appropriate personal arrangement and tell helpers which bag or case must stay off the load.

Keep the documents needed for the move accessible rather than sealing them in the middle of a box. The document guide helps organise records, while the forgotten-items guide prompts a final check before departure.

Do not put a valuable item into an unmarked ordinary box simply to keep it unobtrusive. Make sure the responsible person knows what they are carrying and that any relevant cover or handling conditions have been considered. Share sensitive details only with the people who need them.

Check food and plants against the journey

Plan purchases and meals to reduce perishable food before collection. Ask whether any remaining food is accepted and whether its stated storage requirements can be maintained throughout the journey and any waiting period. Do not rely on a short route alone to establish a suitable temperature.

Only offer surplus food to a person or organisation that accepts it in its actual condition. Donation is not a way to bypass storage or acceptance requirements. Keep pantry goods separate from chemicals and identify any destination restrictions before interstate travel.

For plants, consider the species, soil, route and expected time away from appropriate care. Use the plant-moving guide to organise the next checks. A mover agreeing to carry a plant does not by itself establish that it meets destination entry rules.

Resolve unwanted items before collection

Separate donation, sale and disposal goods from the moving inventory. Arrange collection and confirm acceptance before assuming the items will leave with someone else. The furniture donation guide lists organisations and questions to check locally.

If an item is rejected or an appointment falls through, contact the relevant provider and choose another appropriate option. Tell the mover if you now want an accepted item added to the inventory. Do not assume disposal, another delivery address or extra storage is included in the existing quote.

Before loading, review the unresolved list with the responsible people. Keep excluded goods out of boxes marked for collection and do not ask the crew to make an improvised exception on the day. Confirm the final accepted inventory and any separately arranged transport before departure.

Can I hide a restricted product inside an ordinary moving box?

No. Identify the product and obtain an accepted transport or disposal arrangement before packing. Keep the original label and tell the mover exactly what it is, including relevant batteries, aerosols, chemicals or other goods needing specific checks. Ordinary wrapping or an unmarked carton does not make a restricted item acceptable. Follow the applicable product and service instructions. If acceptance is uncertain, keep the item out of the household load until the responsible provider confirms what can be done.

Does a mover accepting a plant settle interstate entry requirements?

No. Carrier acceptance and entry requirements are separate questions. Check the current rules relevant to the species, soil, container, destination and route with the appropriate authority, including restrictions that may apply within a state. Then confirm the carrier can provide an accepted transport arrangement suited to the plant. Resolve both before loading and keep any required information accessible. If delivery is delayed or involves storage, confirm a suitable care plan rather than assuming the plant can wait with furniture.

Are valuables excluded for the same reason as hazardous chemicals?

No. Important documents, jewellery and irreplaceable belongings may be kept with you for access, security or because they need a separate handling decision. Hazardous products raise different acceptance and handling questions that must be resolved with the carrier and relevant instructions. Make two clear lists rather than treating all excluded goods alike. Keep personal essentials and valuables assigned to a responsible person, and arrange accepted transport or disposal for products that cannot join the ordinary load.

Will the removalist dispose of unwanted items automatically?

No. Disposal, donation delivery or another destination must be discussed and accepted as a separate task where available. Identify the goods and any restrictions, confirm the receiving service and appointment, and keep them distinct from the furniture going to your new home. Check appropriate local disposal arrangements for products or items the mover cannot accept. If a donation fails or you decide to take something after all, update the inventory and agree the booking implications before collection.

How should I sort items that do not belong in ordinary moving cartons?

Separate personal essentials and important records, food requiring its own arrangements, living plants, and products that need acceptance checks. Identify each uncertain item rather than relying on a broad label such as garage contents. Plan to use up or appropriately rehome suitable goods before the move, and contact the relevant service for anything needing disposal. Keep the agreed arrangements on the checklist and tell helpers which groups must not be loaded with household cartons.