

Top 5 Things To Remember When Moving House | Moving Tips

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Details:

Before collection day, check five things that connect your old property to the new one: whether the furniture will fit, what will travel with you, which packing tasks must be finished, what you need immediately, and how the final handover will work. These checks are most useful before the truck arrives, while there is time to clarify the quote and access arrangements.

The starting point is the actual inventory and both addresses. A room count does not describe the stairs, doors, lifts, parking or awkward items that can shape the day. Use how to choose a good removalist for the booking questions and the moving timeline for the preparation sequence.

1. Measure the space and the route to it

A common problem is paying to transport a fridge, bed frame, sofa or table only to find that it cannot reach its intended position. Check the new room and the access route, not just the floor area shown on a property plan.

Measure furniture that may be a tight fit and examine the doors, hallways, corners, stairs and lifts it must pass. Some items cannot be taken apart. Even an experienced crew cannot make an intact object fit through every opening, so bring an access concern into the planning conversation early.

Think about how the item arrived at the old property. If it was difficult to get into place, explain what made it difficult and how it was brought in. The route out may deserve as much attention as the route into the new home. A description, photographs or a walkthrough can help the removalist understand the question before collection.

If a measurement raises a problem

Do not leave the crew to discover the issue while carrying the item. Ask the removalist to assess the access and explain any dismantling or handling options that apply. Selling or replacing an item may be a practical choice when it will not fit. That is a decision to make with the dimensions and access understood, not a reason to force it through an unsuitable opening.

For a fridge, read the appliance preparation guide as well. Model-specific transport instructions remain important even when the measurements look straightforward.

2. Decide which small belongings will travel with you

Consider taking manageable small items in your own vehicle where practical. This can reduce the work left for the removal crew, but the effect on the price depends on the booking. It is not a guaranteed saving simply because an item is small.

Decide which belongings you will transport before the final inventory is agreed. Tell the removalist what is excluded from the load so the quote and collection-day list remain consistent. Keep your items distinguishable from the boxes the crew should load.

Do not let a separate trip become a reason to leave the main move unprepared. Your collection and delivery arrangements still need to work for both properties. If taking items yourself changes when you will be available for the crew, discuss that timing in advance.

If the separate load changes

If you intended to take an item but now need the removalist to move it, update the inventory. The same applies if something is sold, donated or sent to storage. A revised list gives the company a chance to explain whether the change affects the time, space or price rather than trying to resolve it at the door.

For unwanted belongings and used cartons, the guide to reducing moving waste covers practical ways to plan before packing.

3. Finish the preparation you agreed to handle

Confirm whether packing and unpacking are booked services or household tasks. If you are packing, the timeline recommends working room by room, beginning with things you use least and leaving daily essentials until later. Label each box with its contents and destination room so the delivery plan is visible without opening every carton.

Furniture preparation also needs an agreed owner. If dismantling is needed, establish who will do it and whether it is included. If you dismantle a piece yourself, keep the screws and other fittings with that piece. Do not assume that every item can be taken apart or that the removalist will arrive expecting unmentioned assembly work.

Appliances need their own preparation. A fridge should be emptied, defrosted and dried, with loose parts dealt with according to the model's instructions. Plumbed water or ice connections need the correct disconnection guidance. The general household packing schedule does not answer every appliance question.

Check access before the crew arrives

Clear the route between rooms and the exit. Confirm truck parking and any lift or building booking requirements. Tell the company about stairs, narrow doorways, long carries and restrictions at both addresses. The timeline explains that difficult access can increase handling time; describing it accurately helps the crew plan the job.

If preparation is falling behind, contact the company rather than assuming the booked service will absorb the extra work. Ask what can be adjusted and whether the time or price would change. An early conversation gives both sides a clearer basis for the day.

4. Keep essentials accessible until delivery

Pack a separate bag or box for the period before normal unpacking is possible. The published moving timeline recommends chargers, toiletries, a change of clothes, medication and food. It also suggests practical first-use items such as a kettle, mugs, toilet paper and cleaning supplies.

Keep the essentials with you rather than buried in the main load. Label them so they remain easy to identify when you arrive tired at the new property. The purpose is to avoid needing to search through every carton before you can manage the first evening.

For an interstate move, work from the delivery window you have been given. The truck may arrive later than you do, and unpacking begins after delivery rather than automatically the day after collection. Pack for that gap and keep the removalist's contact details available while the goods are travelling.

If you depend on mobility aids, communication devices or support-worker supplies, discuss how they stay available. The NDIS moving guide includes planning for disability-related equipment and support needs, whether or not the move is funded.

5. Walk through collection and delivery deliberately

At collection, show the crew the relevant rooms and highlight fragile, heavy or unusual belongings. Confirm what is staying, what you are carrying yourself and what is going into storage. Use the agreed inventory and collection paperwork so everyone is working from the same scope.

Explain any changed access conditions before loading begins. A parking space that is no longer available or a lift that cannot be used may affect the job. Ask how the revised circumstances will be handled instead of assuming the original timing still applies without adjustment.

At delivery, tell the crew where furniture should be placed and use the box labels to direct items to the right rooms. Confirm any booked unpacking or storage arrangements. Start with the essentials and the rooms you need immediately; the moving timeline recommends leaving less urgent unpacking for the following days.

If something does not match the agreement

Contact the person responsible for the booking and explain the specific difference. It may concern an item, access, timing, a service inclusion or a charge. Refer to the written quote and terms, and ask which adjustment or claims process applies.

Keep the records of the change with the original booking information. Insurance and damage procedures should be checked before moving day, rather than inferred from a broad assurance that a company is insured. The removalist-selection guide provides the questions to ask if those arrangements are still unclear.

Make the final list usable

Write the five checks against your own move: measurements and access, the separate load, preparation responsibilities, essentials, and handover. Note who needs to answer each unresolved question. That turns general advice into a short list you can use when confirming the booking.

For help with the actual inventory and route, request a quote . For other preparation topics, return to the moving advice index .

Should I measure only the space where furniture will stand?

No. Measure both the intended position and the complete path the furniture must take at collection and delivery. Include doors, hallways, corners, stairs and lifts, and explain any difficulty when the item entered the old property. Provide dimensions or photographs when requested. Some pieces cannot be dismantled, so discuss tight access before moving day. A room large enough for a sofa does not prove it can reach that room; have the team assess any uncertain route before handling begins.

Will taking small items myself always save money?

Not necessarily. Carrying suitable small belongings yourself can reduce work left for the crew, but the price effect depends on the quote and any minimums. Decide which goods will travel separately, use an appropriate transport and packing arrangement and tell the mover what is excluded from its inventory. Keep essential bags and documents clearly identified so helpers do not load them

accidentally. Compare the revised complete price and your own effort rather than assuming every small item creates a saving.

Who should dismantle furniture?

Agree the responsibility before moving day, using the furniture's instructions, condition and access needs. Confirm whether the mover's quote includes dismantling and reassembly or whether another suitable person will do it. Not every item is designed to come apart, and an unknown method should not be improvised. Keep fittings, components and instructions associated with the piece. If parts are damaged or missing, raise that before work starts so the plan reflects the actual furniture rather than an assumed straightforward assembly.

What should I check at collection and delivery?

At collection, confirm the inventory, special-care goods, access changes and items staying or travelling separately. Identify unfinished preparation before loading. At delivery, give the contact the room plan and confirm furniture positions, priority cartons and any booked unpacking or assembly. Check the received goods against the inventory and note concerns through the agreed process. If storage or redelivery is involved, make those destinations and responsibilities clear so the handover does not leave items or tasks unaccounted for.

Which essentials should be easy to reach during the move?

Keep keys, booking contacts, identification, important documents, chargers and the household's immediate personal items with you. Plan clothing and other needs for the actual delivery window, especially interstate or where storage is involved. Keep suitable first-arrival kitchen and family items identifiable, with separate food arrangements where needed. Tell helpers which bags must remain outside the load and confirm they are with the intended person before departure. Revise the selection if the timetable changes.