

# Successful Packing Tips:

## Here's a list of packing supplies that will come in handy

- Plastic bags and labels for easy identification.
- Foam peanuts, Styrofoam pellets or "popcorn".
- Tissue or craft paper for delicate packing jobs.
- Corrugated paper rolls for figurines and fragile items.
- Professional Packing Tape (1\_ to 2 inches wide) and/or strong twine for sealing cartons.
- Markers and labels for identifying contents of cartons.
- Notebook and pencil for carton identification log.
- Scissors and/or sharp knife.

## Preparations

Here are a few general suggestions that will make packing easier:

- Plan how you will pack. Pack items first that you don't use often.
- Start packing as soon as you find out you're moving and/or arrange for professional movers
- Never pack flammable items or non-allowable items.
- Use lots of paper inside the carton on the top and bottom to provide good cushion.
- List contents and room on the outside of the carton.
- Clearly mark "Fragile" on the outside of cartons.
- Use clean newsprint paper. Old newspapers may work, but use them carefully because the ink may rub off onto your items.
- Write "Open First" on cartons containing essential items such as cooking utensils, toiletries, etc.
- Separate breakables and non-breakables.
- Pack all cartons tightly.
- Use professional packing tape. Masking tape isn't strong enough to support fully packed cartons.

## Game Plan

- Pack one room at a time. This will help you when it comes time to unpack.
- Pack a couple of cartons a day, starting well ahead of the move.
- Mark all boxes, designating room and box number. Make a carton identification log to show the number of boxes packed per room, and the total number of cartons packed. It's a good idea to leave space in your log for special comments section to note carton conditions or location of high value goods. Notify your mover of any high value items.
- Be sure to have plenty of "filling" material available.
- Be sure that the bottoms of all cartons are secured and will hold the weight of the contents.
- Packing tape or gummed tape is better than masking tape.
- Pack heavier items toward the bottom of the box and lighter items toward the top. Try to keep a per-box weight of 50 pounds or less; it makes moving a lot easier. A general rule to remember on carton size -- the heavier the item, the smaller the carton.

## Packing glasses and stemware

- Stuff glasses and stemware with crumpled tissue or packing paper before wrapping.
- Lie on the corner of packing paper and roll it one or two full rotations (depending on size); pull sides of packing paper up and over glass/stemware and continue rolling to the far corner. Corrugated paper rolls or cellular boxes may be used for added protection.
- Place glasses and stemware toward the top of your box. Heavier items (dishware, pitchers, etc.) should be placed toward the bottom of the box

## Packing dishware

- Select a medium-sized carton (or mover provided dish pack) and line the bottom of the carton with crumpled packing paper.
- With packing paper stacked neatly in place on a worktable, center one plate on the paper.
- Grasp a corner on several sheets of packing paper and pull the paper over the plate until sheets completely cover the plate. Stack a second plate on and, moving clockwise, grasp a second corner and pull sheets over the second plate.
- Stack a third plate. Grasp remaining two corners, folding two sheets of each corner (one at a time) over the plate.
- Turn your wrapped stack of plates upside down onto your packing paper.

- Re-wrap the entire bundle: start with one corner of packing paper and pull two sheets over the bundle, cover bundle with next corner, then the third corner; and finally, the fourth.
- Seal the bundle with packing tape.
- Place the bundle of dishware in a medium-size box so that the plates are standing on edge.

Use this process on all saucers, bread and butter dishes, and other dishware. When packing smaller dishes, you may choose to stack in greater quantity.

## Packing cups

- With packing paper in place on the worktable, position one cup six to eight inches from one of the corners.
- Now pull the near corner of the paper up and over the cup.
- Nest a second cup directly on top, with handle to left (second cup should "nest" itself in packing paper folded over the bottom cups).
- Pull the two side corners up and over, one at a time, and tuck corners inside the top cup.
- Hold the bottom and top cup in position and roll cups to the remaining corner. Fragile mixing bowls may be rolled in the same manner.
- Delicate cups, like china, should be wrapped one at a time. Antique glass or china should be stuffed with crumpled tissue and wrapped one at a time.
- Lie on the corner of packing paper and roll it one or two full rotations (depending on size); pull sides of packing paper up and over glass/stemware and continue rolling to the far corner. Corrugated paper rolls or cellular boxes may be used for added protection.
- Place glassed and stemware toward the top of your box. Heavier items (dishware, pitchers, etc.) should be placed toward the bottom of the box.

Delicate glassware and stemware should be placed in an upright position, not on its side.

No matter what you're packing, you should use crumpled packing paper in between each layer to assure a snug fit wherever there's a gap. All boxes with "fragile" items should be marked accordingly

