

While we all know moving is stressful, there are parts of the process that are more challenging than others. Take packing. No one likes to pack. It's time-consuming and part of the moving process that many people put off until the last minute. What to pack, how to pack, labeling boxes, it's a tedious process.



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relax. and get moving.

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Pack your way to Less Stress:

Planning ahead and packing as soon as you know you are moving can help reduce the stress of the moving process. You'll also want to leave plenty of time to pack as you may find items that can cause emotions if you have not seen them for a long period of time or are forced to dispose of them or leave them behind. Planning ahead and having someone else pack for you is even better. While it does reduce some of your stress, having your moving company pack your goods can actually keep your items safer.

Be sure to inquire how your packing plans will effect your compensation in the event something is damaged. Most of the time packing items on your own will effect who is deemed liable for certain types of damage. In the end, if the moving company determines that damage may have been caused by improper packing the responsibility will be placed on you.

IF YOU DO CHOOSE TO PACK YOUR ITEMS YOURSELF, WE'VE COME UP WITH A FEW TIPS TO HELP YOU AS YOU GO THROUGH THE PACKING PROCESS;

- First, choose which items you would like to pack on your own. Remember, most movers can offer to pack only breakables if you'd like. Going this route will allow you to save money by packing items that have little chance of damage but will still offer you the safety of having items such as antiques or high-value pieces properly packed by the professionals.
- Use sturdy boxes and make sure the box is properly cushioned with paper. Pack your box tight and try to keep it under 50 pounds in weight. If packing dishes, pack them on their side. They will be sturdier that way.
- Make sure you use quality packing materials as your boxes will get moved around quite a bit. Don't use newsprint as the ink can come off onto your goods.
- There are many items that cannot be packed including, household cleaners, gasoline, paints, pesticides, fertilizers and other potentially harmful products.
- Think about other means to transport items such as passports, check books and other valuables that are irreplaceable.
- You may find that you had no idea how much "stuff" you have. Leave plenty of time to pack your belongings and plan for more than you think you have. As soon as you know you are moving, start packing.

I will admit, packing is not the most fun but you can't get to your new home without packing so it's something you'll need to deal with. If you do it correctly or have a professional do it, that will surely put you at ease at your final destination.

Jim Sullivan is the president of Humboldt Storage and Moving of greater Boston. Humboldt's motto is Relax. And get Moving. The entire Humboldt team goes to great lengths to minimize the stress of moving. Jim can be reached at www.humboldt.com or 800-225-9845.