5 Tips

Make Moving a Breeze

Moving can be tough. Packing all of your belongings, hauling boxes and furniture to your new place and then unpacking everything can be a time-consuming and sometimes backbreaking experience. But, it doesn't have to be. Take the pain out of the process with these helpful tips.

1 **Start early.** As soon as you know that you'll be moving, start sorting through your belongings and get rid of the stuff that won't make the move with you. Sort your items into three piles: keep, donate and toss. Then, box up the items that you're keeping, but won't use until after you move (e.g., seasonal clothing, holiday decorations, etc.).

2 **Create a system.** A little organization in the beginning will save you from spending months searching for your favorite things later. Devise a system that helps you keep track of your stuff, and ensure that they make it to the correct room of the house. Some ideas include:

- **Color code your boxes by room:** Red for kitchen, yellow for master bathroom, etc.
- **Number the boxes,** and create a list with the number of each box and its contents.
- **Write the destination** on all surfaces of the boxes in large, clear letters.

3 **Pack a suitcase** with the clothes and toiletries you'll need for the first week after the move. That way, you don't have to rush to unpack everything right away.

4 **Set out two empty boxes** to place items you want to donate or throw away after the move. Even if you sorted your items before you moved, it's inevitable that you'll find a few items that you don't need anymore. Instead of letting them clutter your new space, donate or toss them after you've finished unpacking.

5 **Remember to reward yourself.** Packing and unpacking is hard work! Take a break after you unpack a few boxes, and enjoy a snack or drink.