



## 15 Moving Organizing Tips: Annie Dietrich; Lincoln Moving & Storage Co.

1. **Check in with the moving company the day before your move.** You'll want to verify the timetable and make sure everyone is on the same page. Make sure they have everything covered that you expect them to. This gives you a chance to close any gaps that may have been missed up until this point.
2. **Finish any packing you've ignored the night before.** Our hope is that you have everything packed by now. If not, finish things up now! Don't forget to set aside your most needed items in an "open first box." This is a great box to pack your TV remotes, power cords, and any computer equipment!! While you're doing your last-minute packing, ask yourself if anything you waited this long to pack is truly necessary. If you didn't care about those items until now, it might be better to donate or dispose of them.
3. **Disassemble your large furniture pieces.** Many moving companies charge extra for disassembly. If this wasn't agreed upon in your moving contract, take care of it now. Moving day can be very stressful. You don't want to double down on the stress by having to take apart a bed frame or china hutch.
4. **Set aside some snacks.** Cold beverages, high-protein snacks and caffeine will all come in handy. If you're feeling especially benevolent, you can set aside enough for your movers as well. Your move will be most successful with everyone fully awake, hydrated and well-fed.
5. **Make sure you have a parking space for the moving truck.** If you live in an apartment building, you might need to talk to your super about both parking and reserving an elevator for your movers. If you own your home, make sure there's room for the moving truck before the last second. Talk with your neighbors to let them know your moving truck will be on the street and might take up a lot of space. Letting them know gives them the opportunity to move their own cars if they're worried about access. Besides, it's also a polite gesture and a nice way to meet your neighbors. If you know of any road blockages or narrow access in your neighborhood, warn your movers ahead of time. Depending on how many things you're moving, trucks can become very large. Don't waste precious moving time trying to fit your truck somewhere it wasn't prepared to be.
6. **Make sure your car is ready.** Even if you're hiring professional movers, your car is still going to be a workhorse on moving day. Make sure it's cleaned out and the gas tank is full. You don't want any unnecessary road bumps (literal or otherwise) on moving day.
7. **Pack your bag.** Even the best-prepared moving day can be long and tiresome. Pack your overnight bag so that your clothes, toiletries, and necessary items are in one easy location. Make your first bedtime at your new home relaxing and easy.
8. **Insurance Requirements.** If you are moving into an apartment, condo, or gated community please be sure to check with any property management office to see if the moving company is required to provide a Certificate of Insurance. Some facilities even require the mover to name additional insureds. Although we are in the technology age, this kind of form can take a day or two to obtain from the carrier.
9. **Set a timer and pack for an hour each day.** The week before your move is a great time to buckle down and get things accomplished! Tackle one room at a time for the entire week before your move and you'll be ready to go with ease! This helps minimize the overwhelming feeling that packing an entire home can bring.
10. **Don't overpack moving boxes.** One mistake a lot of people make is that they chose flimsy cardboard boxes and then overpack the weight. Please consult with your mover and choose boxes appropriate in size and weight. Movers will want to stack boxes that close flat.

11. **Repurpose household items for packing.** Think about how you can repurpose things you have, like hampers, suitcases, and laundry baskets. Use these items for a great way to accomplish some additional “non-box” packing!
12. **Keep these items separate.** For many reasons it is best to keep the following items separate: Tools, painting, cleaning products, chemicals. Please consult your mover for what is and is not allowed on the truck.
13. **Use plastic to avoid leaks.** Take extra care with anything that may spill or leak. Freezer bags are a great way to consolidate and protect items of this nature.
14. **When in doubt, throw it out.** If you’ve held the same item in your hands a few times wondering if you should or shouldn’t pack it, the answer is no. Moving is a great time for a household cleanout. Clutter isn’t necessary in your new home. You will do yourself a favor to purge and organize as you are packing.
15. **Fill boxes to the top.** While we did recommend not overpacking boxes, they do need to be filled completely so they don’t get crushed when stacked. Consider blankets, towels or additional paper to fill a box to the top and close it completely.