

Good To Know

Dream Home Athens Tips & Guides

Pack Like a Pro

Plan ahead

Develop a master to-do list so you will not forget something critical heading into moving day. This will also help you create an estimate of moving time and costs.

Discard items you no longer want or need

Ask yourself how frequently you use an item and how you would feel if you no longer had it. Sort unwanted items into "garage sale," "donate," and "recycle" piles.

Pack similar items together

It will make your life easier when it is time to unpack.

Decide what you want to move on your own

Precious items such as family photos, valuable breakables, or must-haves during the move should probably stay with you. Pack a moving day bag with a small first-aid kit, snacks, and other items you may need before unpacking your "Open First" box.

Know what your movers will take and will not take

Many movers will not take plants or liquids. Check with them about other items so you can plan to pack them yourself. Inquire about lawn mowers and anything with a fuel component. Pianos will likely require special treatment and pricing.

Put heavy items in small boxes

Try to keep the weight of each box under 50 pounds.

Do not overpack boxes

It increases the likelihood that items inside the box will break.

Wrap fragile items separately

Pad bottoms and sides of boxes and, if necessary, purchase bubble-wrap or other packing materials from moving stores. Secure plants in boxes with air holes.

Label every box on all sides

You never know how they will be stacked. Also, use color-coded labels to indicate which room each box should go in, coordinating with a color-coded floor plan for the movers.

Keep moving documents together in a file, either in your moving day bag or online

Include vital contact information, the driver's name, the van's license plate, and the company's number.

Print out a map and directions for movers and helpers

Make several copies and highlight the route. Include your cell phone number on the map.

Back up computer files on the cloud

Alternatively, you can keep a physical backup on an external hard drive offsite.

Inspect each box and piece of furniture as soon as it arrives

Ahead of time, ensure your moving company has a relatively painless process for reporting damages