

GUIDE TO PACKING

There are many websites out there offering rules and tips on how to pack your effects. But the easiest way is to let us do it for you, it doesn't cost as much as you think. If you still want to do your own packing here is a few tips to make your life easier from the experts.

- Before you start collect together the essential tools you will need. Boxes, marker pen, bubble wrap, newspaper, white paper, tape and scissors, tape measure.
- We recommend that you use industry standard packing boxes to ensure your goods remain secure and this will ensure they stack well in the lorry.
- Never fill boxes so that they can't be lifted safely. If a box becomes heavy while packing substitute heavier items for light ones such as towels and bed linen.
- Work out where you want your possessions in the new home - drawing a plan is helpful. Make sure someone is at the new house to show where things go. Label each box and indicate the following: (a) Which room it should go in (b) Whether it is fragile / what's in it? (c) If it should be loaded last so it will be unloaded first.
- Use this opportunity to de-clutter and disregard those items you will not use anymore. Hackworthys work with local charities and will be able to distribute good quality items on your behalf.
- Wrap your china and ornaments in white paper before placing them into a packing box, then fill any spaces with crumpled up newspaper, this way you'll ensure that your items are clean when unpacked and also that nothing is accidentally thrown away.
- Cushion contents with packing material such as bubble wrap, newspaper or tissue. Save room by using towels and blankets to wrap fragile items. Pack books tightly on end in small boxes.
- Remember to label each case clearly and leave the kettle until last – we're going to need it!
- Carry all valuables with you.
- If your items are being stored with us ensure you keep all important documents such as passport, birth certificates with you.
- You don't need to pack every drawer of cupboards. Just remove anything breakable, spillable or very heavy. We do however recommend that you empty flat pack furniture which can be fragile.
- Boxes should be filled to the top so that they don't collapse, but avoid over filling them as items may get broken when they are stacked in the removal lorry.
- Pack a box of essential (bed linen, toothbrushes, child's favourite toy, cereals etc) items you need in case you're late when you arrive at your new home.
- Remember to empty your loft before the day you move. You may find that there are things up there that you no longer need and these can be disposed of in advance.