

Part 1: Packing Materials and Their Uses

Boxes: When assembling your boxes, fold the flaps equally (don't just tuck them in) and securely tape the base. Ensure the tape is high enough to overlap with the top taping for extra stick. Use small boxes for books and fragile items, and large boxes for bulky and light items.

Wardrobe Boxes: These are ideal for hanging clothes. However, avoid overfilling them and refrain from using them for outdoor clothing or heavy coats. Mark the top of the box with the room it's destined for.

Bubble Wrap: This is perfect for protecting glass items, mirrors, paintings etc.

Shrink Wrap: Use this for covering items like CD racks or bundling together flat or boxshaped collections of items.

Tissue (Acid-Free): Ideal for all fragile items such as china and ornaments. It's also great for placing between layers of books and as a top layer for clothes and shoes. Once used, tissue (crush) can be recycled for further use in lining boxes.

Marker Pen: Use this to mark the top of the box to indicate what room it has come from or is destined for, an idea of contents, your initials and if it is fragile/heavy.

Tape: Keep your packing tape at room temperature for easy use. This will prevent tears when unrolling.

Stanley Knife/Scissors: Use these with care to avoid marking furniture.

Corrugated Card (Rolls of): Wrap round bottles or similar shaped ornaments.

Packing Foam: Use as in-fill for delicate items that cannot be wrapped easily, like ornaments, chandeliers, etc. Also known as packing peanuts, poly chips, or foam peanuts, among others. These act by filling in around objects to hold them securely.

Always protect the customer's flat surfaces by covering and protecting them. Also, remember to use floor and stair covers.



Part 2: How to Pack Different Types of Items

Packing Kitchen China Products

For all kitchen china products, when possible, use small boxes. Prepare the box by taping the underside and lining the base with used tissue paper and/or packing foam. Plates/saucers should be placed on end with crush under, beside and over. Cereal bowls can be placed flat if they are the same size and well-protected. Lidded china should have the lid removed and packed separately.

Place crush around the handle or stem for cups/mugs and wine glasses with stems, then triple wrap to create a solid unit.

For other delicate items like ships and chandeliers, use a correctly sized box and pour packing foam into the base enough to support the item. Place the item in and fill with packing foam. Clearly mark the contents.

For extra delicate items, seal every edge of the box. This creates an airtight space within the box, greatly increasing its resistance to damage.

Packing Oil Paintings, Books, Clothes and Shoes

Oil paintings may need to be custom crated or export wrapped. If not, use acid-free tissue between the faces if two together, or on the oil side if only one. Cut a sheet of card to fit over the tissue and the frame, then blanket wrap and tape, taking care not to stick tape to any part of the frame.

Lay books flat to prevent any potential harm to their spine. If the books hold significant value, place acid-free tissue between each one and add a layer on top and bottom for added protection.

When packing folded clothes and shoes, use tissue in the box. For shoes, individually wrap each pair and fill boots with crushed tissue paper to prevent them from bending. It's best to keep boots upright and avoid placing anything on them.

Packing Under Sink Items and General Tidy-Up

Ensure all cleaning supplies are positioned upright in the packing, and confirm that caps and lids are securely fastened. Pay attention to tall aerosol cans that might not fit in the box - the pressure from weight on top could trigger them to spray, possibly causing damage. Make sure boxes containing items like washing powders are firmly sealed and taped to prevent spillage. Items typically stored under the sink should be packed last, and always confirm with the customer if they need to keep anything out for immediate use.



Tidy as you go. This helps prevent mishaps and projects a professional demeanour. Keep a box open for minor trash items. Also, have a separate, well-labelled box for small pieces like screws, keys, etc., which may easily get misplaced.

For boxes that might be opened by the customer using a knife, mark them clearly with "Do Not Cut Tape" to prevent accidental damage to the contents.