

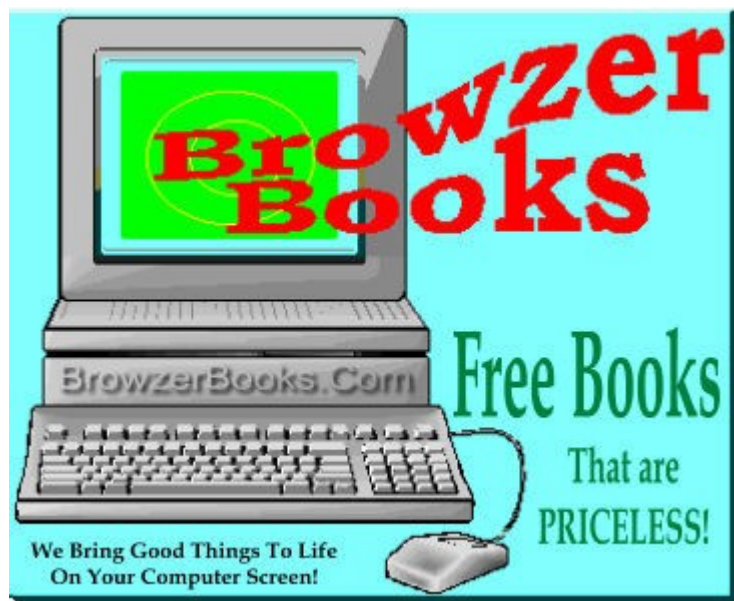
# The Moving Tips

# Check List

## for these Latter Days

Written by Lin Stone

**Published by Browzer Books**



If you enjoy the way Lin strings information together you'll also want to investigate his book [HOW TO BUY LAND AT TAX SALES](#). Lin gives you FREE access to at least five of his other books, Water – Water, Chickens are Cute Little Carnivores, Tales From The Light Side, Short Stuff, HOW I CURED MYSELF OF GOLD FEVER, etc. [Click HERE to review these titles](#) and hundreds more.

# The Moving Tips **Check List** for these Latter Days

Written by Lin Stone



**No move costs a family more  
than one that isn't well planned for.**

# Without Planning A Terrible Thing Happens Social Engineers call it **CHAOS**

If you won't plan your move in advance,  
all your slots of free time will vanish,  
frustration will mount,  
emergencies will arise,  
bargains will disappear,  
your dependable friends will find other matters depending upon them when you need them most,  
and invariably what you need most will end up in unknown and obscure hiding places.  
It makes sense and saves money to plan your move as far in advance as you possibly can. Consequently, you need to --

**Start planning your move  
at least 30 days before it is time to go.**

This 30 day pre-move time is the perfect opportunity for improving the security in your new home. Not only will this give you more peace of mind, but it will also lower your insurance premiums.

One of the first things you want to do is fill out a change of address order form for the postal service. It used to be that you could find these things conveniently placed in the post office foyer so that people with handicaps can find them easily.

If you are moving out of town or across the country, give your employer (or employees) your new mailing address. Remember that neighbor you haven't spoken to in ten years? Give them a copy too because they will become your number one source of gossip and when approached right will gladly educate those who "know" you but "don't know" you well enough to know you are moving, and direct them to your new residence.

I've had money come to me two and three years later simply because my neighbors knew where I'd gone. Of course, if you owe money ---?

\* Let your church's version of the [Elder's Quorum and Relief Society](#) know you will be moving, even if you don't need their help. Your church's version of a clerk or secretary should be given your new address as soon as possible. The clerk should also be able to give you the phone numbers of church officials at your new home. By giving your new unit your exact time of arrival your move can be greatly facilitated on the other end.

\* Give your utility companies a **shut off and turn on** schedule. Advance notice to these companies can save you money -- and give you peace of mind as well. Don't forget to give newspaper, magazine subscription, telephone and cable companies advance notice of your move as well.

\* If your move is more than local ask your doctors and dentist for copies of your medical and dental records, x-rays and prescription histories. At least 30 days notice are needed by medical staffs to copy records. 45 days would be even better. Make sure you have their phone numbers and mailing addresses. Ask your doctors to transfer prescriptions and for referrals to new doctors in that area.

Two notes on that...

(1) Major pharmacies like Wal-Mart, Fred's, etc. can MOVE your prescriptions effortlessly across state lines. Just be aware that there are certain medical substances which are illegal in some states even though they are legal in the state you are leaving.

(2) If you have already have a doctor that works well for your specific needs, it may well pay you to drive up to 200 miles to keep that great relationship.

\* Especially if you live in a small community, reserve the moving date with the moving company you will be using. If you are moving yourself with a rental truck or trailer, RESERVE the exact vehicle you are sure you want. On the last big move I participated in we got the truck loaded and still had loads to go before they left. This was on a Saturday evening and everything was closed. She ended up driving 95 miles to get a bigger truck AND a trailer. Then we had to unload the truck she had into the truck she got.

I can't think of anything more frantic than having to travel hundreds of miles to find SOMEONE with a truck big enough to move me on the day before I have the move scheduled. In a pinch, remember that American Moving and Storage Association represents more than 3,200 professional moving companies and is dedicated to making your move successful every step of the way.

<http://www.moving.org/>

\* If you are relying on "Brother Smith" or a friend with a truck and trailer combination, give them at least TWENTY DAYS notice. Not only is this a mark of courtesy and refinement, it is a sign of good sense.

\* You probably take it for granted that your checks are accepted everywhere you trade now, but that courtesy will probably not be the case when you move to a new community. Since that period after you arrive at your new home is when you will need check cashing privileges the most, setting up a checking account in your new city BEFORE YOU GO should be a top priority.



**By the same token, Make sure that direct debit and billing links to your bank accounts are organized to handle any changes resulting from your move.**

\* **Make copies of any important documents before trusting them to the postal service -- or hand carry them to your new address.**

Remember that important documents such as genealogy records, wills or deeds, jewelry, photographs, and home videos are virtually impossible to replace. I still remember what horror one friend of mine took us through when THEIR records went into the trash instead of the moving van. We spent days going through the trash dump. It was dirty, it was filthy, and it was humiliating to be out there wading through the garbage, pleading with the dozer operator to move his business somewhere else. We finally found that sack, but it was a miracle and one I don't care to see happen again.

**It is wisdom to move your irreplaceable belongings to a safety deposit box while you move.**

\* **Start using up your perishable food items. The less you have to pack, the less there is to spoil. If you are using friends or church members for packing help, plan on providing snacks for your friendly moving crew with everything you have left. "HERE, have some MORE!"**

\* Make a video tape inventory of your belongings before they're packed, just in case you need to file an insurance claim later. Take down serial numbers of your more expensive tools and household goods.

\* **Are you earning money from home, or a business of your own?**

**Check into the laws and requirements of your new city regarding home-based businesses, professional tests, business licenses and any special laws that might be applicable to you.**

\* Just seeing those signs that you ARE moving can create stress in your pets. Any animal is liable to protest in times of stress. Do not count on that pleasing personality to continue pleasing you during a stressful move. Cats have been known to go berserk in moving vehicles. Dogs have been known to use their snapping and gnashing of teeth to lock their owners out of their vehicles in strange cities. Be aware, and prepare. Plan ahead for what you will need for transporting your plants and your pets to your new home.

A very complete packing tips checklist for moving pets, house plants and garden plants is found on the web at

[http://www.2c.com/wb\\_hrpages/hr\\_gen\\_moving.html#anchor5629951](http://www.2c.com/wb_hrpages/hr_gen_moving.html#anchor5629951)

## Step Two

### One To Two Weeks Before Moving

- Begin writing long distance checks from your new bank accounts. Advise everyone you pay of your new address.
- Get a supply of travelers checks for quick, available funds during your move.
- Collect your valuables from your safe-deposit box and either ship them ahead by secure means, or prepare to take them with you.
- Before closing your old bank accounts, be sure there are no outstanding checks or automatic payments that haven't been processed.
- Close your bank accounts and have your funds wired to your new bank.
- Check with your [insurance company](#) to be sure you'll be covered through your homeowner's or renter's policy during the move.
- Confirm any travel reservations which are pending.
- Reserve the service elevator if you are moving out of -- or into an apartment.
- Have all your major appliances serviced for moving.
- Clean the rugs and formal clothing you want to take special care of, and have them pre-wrapped for moving.
- Defrost your freezer and your refrigerator. Air them out and place deodorizer inside to control any stray odors.
- Arrange for a cleaning service to come into your old home and clean up behind you.

## **Eliminate unneeded items BEFORE you move..**

This will cut down on the number of things you have to pack, and make it easier to put everything where you want it when you arrive at your new home. It is usually far cheaper to transport money than it is the actual item. I remember one five state move that I made where every major appliance was sold before I left, and re-bought when I arrived -- with money left over in the process. On top of that, I didn't have to haul or pay for hauling any of the appliances. Naturally, this doesn't work with heirlooms and antiques.

\* Along the same line, it's a good idea to obtain the measurements of the doorways and hallways in your new home. Compare these measurements with the larger pieces of household goods you will be moving in. There are cases where you may actually need to sell or donate some items you didn't plan on getting rid of. But at least you'll save the space and expense of moving something you can't get into the new house when you get there.

### **Selling Things You No Longer Want**

Start by sorting through some of the things you already KEEP packed. For instance, I've had my sign-making equipment packed up tight for the last four moves, and more than likely I will never ever use them again since the art of sign making has passed me far by the way side. Not only can you lighten your load, you can also raise some quick cash and save time besides. Having a yard sale will give your neighbors a chance to come pick up some bargains – and an excuse to pick up on the news of when and where you're moving to as well.

- You can pick up colorful paper to make your posters with at almost any store offering paper.
- To get people close enough to you to see your posters, make sure you advertise in your local newspaper.
- Place your best items closer to the street to draw attention from passing vehicles.
- The whole idea is to unload everything you have picked out. If anyone sidles up to you and asks for a bargain, just say, "Sure, you buy what you want for full price and I'll throw in

(X) for just one dollar more." Or, "SURE, TAKE EVERYTHING HERE for just \$XXXX.00"

- Visit your bank and get plenty of change.
- Use your local flea markets. Everybody knows where they are and if the weather is good, traffic will be great.
- If all else fails, see if you can't give it away to second hand stores and charity organizations, especially those that ship excess goods to third world countries.

## Basic Packing Strategies

**Use These Basics of Packing to avoid coming to grief.**

\* Do not pack or transport hazardous materials such as paint, thinners, solvents, oils, varnishes, firearms and ammunition. Bottled gas, propane, lamp oil, -- in short, anything flammable, explosive, or corrosive -- motor fuels and oils, nail polish remover, bleach and even aerosol cans fall into the same category. If these leak, or explode, you could well lose some things very important to you, like your life or limbs.

**\* You should never let the movers -- or even your best friends -- pack your jewelry, family heirlooms, hobby collections, or other priceless items. My mother-in-law STILL insists the movers got her diamond rings. Pack these valuable items personally and if they can't be replaced with money, take them right along with you, either in the car or as carry-on luggage if you are using commercial travel.**

**Pack all your medicines  
inside leak proof containers.  
Separate the liquid medicines from the solids.**

- \* Remember that time will be precious on moving day. For instance, if you have a waterbed, it is likely to take around two hours to empty the water! It is essential that you plan ahead and consider doing all your time-consuming tasks at least by the night before.
- \* In larger cities you can find and use wardrobe boxes to save you valuable ironing time later on. Sure, you can pack t-shirts and jeans in suitcases and regular boxes, but do you really want to pack your fine clothing such as suits or dresses in boxes like that? If you live outside the loop you may want to order your boxes from online. The best source I've found is <http://www.theboxauthority.com/>
- \* Mattress cartons are available to protect your mattresses from filth, grease, and rips and tears during the transit. Plastic paint tarps are only a second rate alternative but still much better than having no protection at all.
- \* **Padded dish boxes** with dividers will help protect your fine china.
- \* Department stores and grocery stores, usually have a great number of boxes to give away **for your other packing needs**. Get your boxes early during the Christmas season though. If you have computers to pack, ask a computer store for some of their boxes. Not only might you find just the right sized box, but also the molded Styrofoam that goes inside and protects your products well.
  - \* Other essential packing materials include sharp scissors, bubble wrap, Ziploc type bags, Styrofoam kernels of "popcorn", newspaper, acid free tissue paper, three different kinds of rope -- consisting of nylon, clothes line, and stout fishing line -- packing tape, duct tap, and don't forget to grab a big supply of permanent ink markers, preferably in various colors so you can COLOR CODE your boxes.
  - \* Colorful tags with the two twist wires for attaching to packages are perfect for helping to keep boxes upright, and going to the right destinations. These are especially essential if you have some of your furniture and household items being delivered to different locations.
- \* Now you are ready to organize. Remember the theory, First In -- Last Out. If you are planning on taking everything in by the front door of your new home then you will want to load everything that goes into the first few rooms so that they arrive LAST. Everything that goes into the farthest rooms should arrive FIRST.

- \* Concentrate on packing from one room at a time. That doesn't mean to pack up everything in one room before you move on to another one. Any items that you definitely won't need again before you move should be packed first. Leave out anything you MIGHT need before you move. Pack these as it becomes obvious that you won't need them.
- \* Gardening tools, mowers and other goodies can be packed together so they can be unloaded in a separate location altogether if necessary. By loading them together you will save time, and energy by being able to unload them together. Follow the tips in your owner's manual for advice about moving.
- \* You no longer have your manual, can't contact the manufacturer? Here are some broad pointers: Generally, remove all fuel, check lubricant levels or remove lubricant to avoid spillage. Do not put these items in boxes; however it is a good idea to wrap them in plastic or cloth tarps and secure with rope or heavy tape. Label each item after covering. Do not put boxes or other heavy items on top of your mechanical items.
- \* Load your boxes by the room, unload by the room. This way you will not end up moving items from one room to another after your help leaves. Your job as traffic cop will be smooth as silk. You won't be left making split second decisions where boxes are going either.
- \* After arriving at your new home, when you begin filling a room up ask the help to put boxes against the far wall, loose things to one side and furniture to the other side. Again, if you organize everything before you load it up, you will have far greater control when you unload it.
- \* Now we are ready fill up our boxes. Small boxes can be filled with small items THEN put them inside larger boxes. It is necessary and safer to fill all your boxes up, but keep all your boxes weighing about the same MANAGEABLE weight.

When we had a moving fever in our area we also just happened to have two Tongan missionaries serving our Branch. If you are gifted with two Tongan Rogue missionaries at your beck and call you can put a piano in a box and expect them to carry one in each hand. But if all you have available is two Elder Pipsqueaks then you had better keep the box weight down to about 40 pounds with a 50 pound maximum.

- \* NOTE: A box that is much lighter than it looks should be marked for special handling because a box that is unexpectedly too light can throw a friend of yours off balance and has been known to wrench muscles.

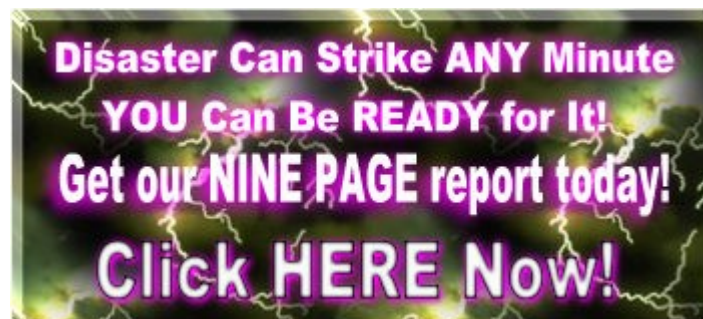
- \* Heavier items can be put near the bottom of each box to stabilize it. Breakables should go near the center with lots of protective packing around them. Fill all of your boxes as full as they will go, but DO NOT leave a sharp edge anywhere near the side or top of the box.
- \* If that sharp edge punctures the box the item inside can be damaged, or the Helpful Hannah giving you a hand could be injured and leave you with the rest of the load to cart off by yourself.

\* Loose material like crinkled up newspaper or Styrofoam pieces can be used to fill up any empty space. Books tend to get heavy rather quickly. Set aside smaller boxes for them and strap them extra tightly. If you have a large library you will want to pack your books by genre. Your larger, heavier books should always go on the bottom of the box, and try to load all of your books FLAT inside the box.

\* Mixers and other small appliances should be packed in their own boxes. This identifies them more readily and also makes them easier to handle. If there are small attachments going with the appliances, TAPE THEM into place inside their box. In today's throw-away-world just a single handle or a knurl might well cost you 2/3 as much as replacing the whole appliance will.

### **Bulky Things**

- Whenever possible, disassemble them.
- Cover your table tops with a blanket or old linen. If these are valuable, remove the legs if possible so they won't get scratched or marred. If you can't remove the legs, cover them with aluminum wrap. Always wrap the nuts and bolts in a plastic bag and secure them to one of the legs.
- For tables that can't be disassembled, store them on the truck or trailer with the top down -- with the legs pointing toward the ceiling.
- Chairs should be stacked seat-to-seat with paper in between.
- Moisture and mildew can cause damage to your refrigerator and freezer, not to mention raising a foul odor. Make sure that these items are clean **and dry**.
- Make sure that all loose parts in your refrigerator (including ice trays and container drawers) are made secure.
- **Any exposed refrigeration coils should be padded with an old blanket or cardboard to protect them during the move.**
- When taking your bed apart, wrap a thick towel around the middle of the frames and then use tape or rope to bind them together.
- In order to keep the tub of your washing machine from moving around during the move, fill it with stuffed toys, blankets, towels, and old linens, preferably AFTER you have loaded it onto the truck or trailer.
- Couches can usually be moved more easily by standing them on end and twisting them through the doorway.



## Tricky Things

- Bicycle handlebars should be loosened and turned sideways. Don't forget to keep the chains and pedals covered with plastic bags with maybe an old rag inside just to be double sure, otherwise grease and oil might rub off on other items.
- Small mirrors should be carefully wrapped and packed in boxes. Cardboard can be used to cover large paintings, artwork, or wall mirrors. Use flattened cardboard boxes if you don't have sheets of cardboard available. Putting thick towels between the cardboard will help protect these even more, but only if the towels are secured into place. For even more protection, keep these items safe inside wardrobe boxes.
- If any of your outdoor furniture is too bulky or heavy to move in one piece, you can always disassemble it. When you do have to disassemble it, be sure to place the nuts and bolts in a plastic bag and attach it right to the furniture.
- Carpets and rugs should be rolled up and carefully secured with tape or rope.
- Wrapping sharp edges on any tools or attachments first with a thick towel, and then with a plastic bag, will help prevent injury. Power tools should be packed with plenty of cushioning. Be sure to tie or tape your tool chests securely shut.
- Dispose of the gasoline and oil from your lawnmower and other machinery, as well as any flammable or poisonous household products in a way to protect your environment. Check with your local fire department if you aren't sure WHERE and HOW to do this.
- DON'T EVER pack rags that are soiled with fuel or oil when you move. They too should be properly disposed of and left behind.
- Remove the glass plate from your microwave and tape the door shut before you pack it, or move it.



Learn how to make your own yogurt,  
**then STUN your family**  
with delicious yogurt biscuits  
Better than Grandma used to make!  
All the Directions and Information  
**Are Yours For FREE! Click HERE**

# Major Appliances can be a **BIG Problem!**

As I suggested before, have your refrigerators, freezers, washers, driers, stoves, etc clean and dry before you load them up. If space is limited you CAN pack them full again, **once they are loaded**. But trying to lift, move and load a major appliance with it packed is asking for trouble.

\* ALL major appliances should always have the doors secured in a CLOSED position during transport. Rope is the worst thing you can use to do this with. Invariably it will stretch. Where feasible, use duct tape. If there is any chance the surface will be marred or damaged by duct tape, use a SOFT rope, taking up all the slack with a bungee type cord which will at least keep the rope taut. Wrap a thick towel around the hooks to protect the surface.

\* **If you ever do decide to discard any of these larger items, removing the doors completely is the only sure way to guarantee that a child cannot enter and suffocate.**

\* Grandfather Clocks and other large items which require special attention should have directions for moving visibly available on their person. For example: "KEEP CLOCK IN AN UPRIGHT POSITION WHILE MOVING. Do not tilt the top more than 30 degrees to go through doorways." The weights and pendulums should be removed and packed TOGETHER before the last minute arrives.

# More Packing Tips for Home Furnishings

Take the drawers out of your dressers. Leave the contents in the drawers and pack drawers and contents inside plastic tarp or plastic bags. Leaving the drawers inside your dressers and taping them shut can mar the finish of your fine furniture. Ropes seldom hold.

\* If it might be awhile before you get a chance to empty these containers, use mothballs or other similar products to protect your clothing from insects and other pests.

## **Tips For Packing Kitchen China, Glassware, Precious Crystal, Etc.**

Before you ever start packing, put a fluffy layer of packing material (bubble wrap or Styrofoam) in the bottom of the box. If boxes specifically designed to accommodate these items are not available locally, send your little surfer scooting to <http://www.theboxauthority.com/> to make a purchase online.

\* If you MUST use regular boxes, put an extra layer of packing material (bubble wrap or Styrofoam) in the bottom of the box and seal it with real strapping tape. DO NOT RELY ON DUCT TAPE.

- **Wrap each item separately.**
- **Pack plates and glass objects vertically, rather than flat and stacked.**
- **Pack all of these items in such a way that they won't bang against each other.**
- **Separate them with plenty of old newspaper, bubble wrap, sheets, blankets, pillows, or towels.**
- **Fill in ALL empty spaces.**
- **Mark the boxes "fragile" and identify which room they go into.**
- **To avoid crushing, make sure heavy boxes do not get put on top of these items .**

\* Mirrors, windows, paintings, and glass framed pictures should be packed in the same way.

## Packing Tips For Gold, Silver, Brass, and other precious metals

As always, start by putting packing material (bubble wrap or Styrofoam) in the bottom of the box so these cannot escape. Then, wipe all surfaces clean and wrap each piece individually in tissue paper. Wrap these items in materials (such as bubble wrap) that will not mar the finish, .

\* Make sure that any wrapping or packing material used with these precious metal items is chemical free (don't use old cleaning rags, etc.)

\* Mark the boxes "fragile". To avoid crushing, don't place any heavy boxes on the boxes containing these items.

## Packing Your Computer

You can protect your computer system from mechanical failure or damage due to normal physical shock which occurs during transport. Just follow these steps immediately prior to moving your computer and your system should arrive safely at your destination. If you think I'm going overboard on precautions then you haven't faced the catastrophic permutations of losing everything on your computer yet.

### FLOPPY DISK DRIVE PREPARATION

The very first thing you want to do is make backup copies of your data files and store them together **with the original program disks** in a sturdy container, preferably a fireproof lockbox. Remove any important floppy diskettes from the drives and insert an old floppy disk in the drive and close the drive door. This locks the drive in place.

### HARD DISK PREPARATION

When it comes to your hard disk, the recording heads should be "parked" before transport. Check your owners manual to see if you have a manual *park and lock* system. Using this system will retract the recording heads from the data area into a safety zone.

Other PC systems use a program to activate the park procedure. IBM and most hard-disk clones use the program **SHIPDISK.EXE** that parks the heads for you.

This program is usually located on the diagnostic diskette that came with your computer. You should run the program from the menu of the diagnostic diskette, but you can also copy the file SHIPDISK.EXE to your hard disk and run it from there.

When the program SHIPDISK has run successfully, the red light of the the disk will begin to flash on and off. This is your proof that the hard disk has been parked. Once your drives are secure, you should turn the system to OFF and remove all those cables from the back of the unit. You can and should lash all your cables together or at least pack them in a box which is clearly labeled as computer cables. Since I'm always moving multiple computer systems, I have a separate box for each set of cables and speakers.

What about UNPARKING your computer system? The hard disk is unparked automatically when your computer is turned back on.

\* The original packing box your system came in is always the best transport choice. The rigid Styrofoam packing material will hold the system securely in place. In the event your original box is not available, your carrier will provide a sturdy packing container and materials. If you are doing your own moving, visit the local computer store and ask for packing supplies, including the box.

## **MOVING YOUR PRINTERS**

Again, the original packing box and material is the best choice for transport because the Styrofoam is customized to fit YOUR printer. If you are moving a laser printer, be sure to remove the ink cartridge as the ink may spill and contaminate the laser engine. These cost a few pennies to replace. If you are moving a pin printer, you should insert a piece of paper in the platen to secure the print head.

Make sure you don't place heavy boxes on these items or following all these tips shall still come to naught.

**After you have moved, it's a really good idea to let all your electrical appliances return to room temperature BEFORE plugging them back in.**

After everything is loaded onto the truck or trailer.. emember that all pools and spas that can hold water must have appropriate barriers to prevent access by young children.

You should always shut and lock all windows and doors as you leave your old home on moving day.

# After Arriving At Your New Home

Before you ever begin to unpack, wipe out all cupboards and shelves with a [vinegar solution](#) or some other antiseptic cleaner. Allow the shelves and cupboards to dry completely before using shelving paper to line cupboards and drawers.

- Just as soon as you are settled, renew your driver's license, auto registration and tags.
- Shop around for new insurance policies, especially auto coverage.
- Revise your will and other legal papers to avoid longer probate and higher legal fees.
- Locate the hospitals, police stations, veterinarian and fire stations near your home.

## **If your new house is smaller than your old one, Consider Using Rental Self Storage Facilities.**

Self storage allows you to: Choose the right amount of space to suit your needs. Select the right length of time you will need to store your items. Pay only for the space you need.

- When you might be picking up or dropping off items on a regular basis, it makes sense to choose a storage facility that's close to home.
- Ask the facility manager if there are smoke alarms, sprinklers, and security devices protecting the units.
- Check to see if insurance is available through the storage facility.
- Make sure to check the roof and sides for evidence of water damage.
- Carefully read the rental agreement and make sure to abide by the rules and regulations of the Self Storage Facility.
- As this is an important document, be sure to keep it in a safe place.
- Ask the facility managers for advice any time you need it. They are there to help you.

## **Carefully Plan The Use and Layout of Your Storage Space.**

You can easily get the most out of a small storage area if you plan carefully. Put your heaviest and bulkiest items on the floor. Build a tower of smaller and lighter items over the stronger ones. Separate the storage area available to you by type of item.

**Plan Ahead:** Make sure you have easy access to the items you need to get to often by placing them closer to the opening of your storage space.

**Do not even think about storing paint, hazardous chemicals, fuel, or any illegal items.**

## **Protecting Your Stored Belongings**

- It is wise to lay plastic sheeting or blankets between the furniture and the floor of your storage unit. Wrapping aluminum foil around the bottoms of all the furniture legs will protect them even more from absorbing moisture and mildew.
- Your furniture should always be suitably wrapped to protect it from scratches and moisture. A good way of doing this is by using blankets, towels, and old linens.
- Use a rust protector on your bikes and tools.

## **Files, Records And Other Documents**

# **Storage Tips**

- Books should be packed flat to protect their spines.
- Suitable archive boxes or packing cartons should be used. Not only will you save space and offer the best protection for your goods or records, but your goods will also be easier to retrieve.
- Fill empty pockets in the boxes with packing materials.
- Make sure that all boxes are clearly labeled to easily identify contents. Otherwise, you will be opening and closing boxes forever.

If you must store clothing, use wardrobe boxes. You will save yourself from having to iron your things when you do move them out of storage.

## **Insure Your Goods In Storage**

Remember, the items you choose to store in a self storage space still belong to you, and insuring them remains your sole responsibility. **The self storage facility will not insure your items.** Before you go spending any extra money for insurance, contact your insurance provider to see if you are already covered.

**Ask the storage facility manager  
for a list of items you should not store.**

Moving can be a traumatic experience for you or someone else in your family. Some psychologists believe that the reason we sleep is so we can dream. And the reason we dream is so that our minds can adjust to the changes that have taken place in us and around us. If there is any way at all to do it, schedule in at least two days AFTER you are settled in to just absorb the changes in your life. If you aren't stressed out then maybe someone else in your family will be.

One or more of your children may need to be reassured that their space in the universe is still secure. Pretend they are two or three years younger than they really are and treat them accordingly.

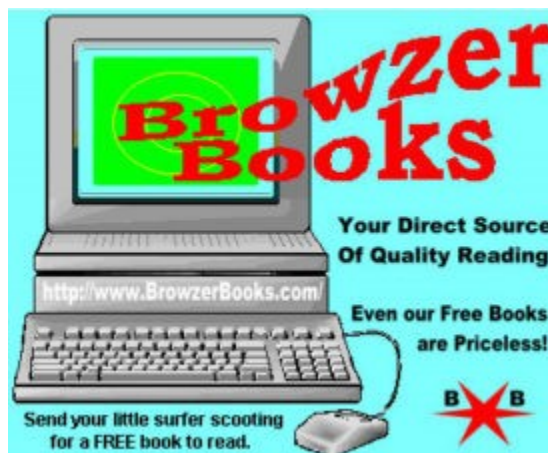
Pets too may need to be reassured that this is really home. Show them where the food is now and how to find their old toys.

If nobody else in your family is stressed out, pretend that you are. Sit down, put your feet up, and collapse. You don't even have to take two aspirin; you will feel better in the morning.

The end

Independently less than wealthy, Lin Stone writes how to books, stories and articles for the trade. In his spare time Lin writes about the Three H-s: horses, humor and health. Four of his latest books are available for your free reading pleasure from <http://www.talewins.com/Browzer/novels.htm>

His latest stories are available for your free reading pleasure from <http://www.talewins.com/StoneSoup.htm>



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