

## Tips for Self-Moving

Self-move means that you take care of packing and coordinating with people who can help you move your things to your new place. Since you have to take care of all these on your own, it can be overwhelming. Below is a list of things you'll need to think about when you're considering self-moving, along with tips you might find very helpful.

- **Moving truck** - find one that's as big as your need. Be prepared to drive the truck that you rent. Study the truck and its controls. Just because you can drive a car doesn't mean you can drive a truck just as easily. They are bigger and heavier so they should be driven slowly and carefully. Braking distances are longer and they have large blind spots. Some trucks do not have power steering and power brakes and automatic transmission may not be available.
- **Towing a vehicle** - When you rent a truck, let the company know that you will tow a vehicle. Give them details like the make and model of the vehicle so the company can provide you with a truck that's most appropriate for it.
- **Dollies and Pads** - they can protect your appliances and furniture from friction and bumps. Straps are also necessary to keep your load in place. Refrain from using bungee cables. You might need to use hand trucks to move big heavy items.
- **Fuel** - It's a wise idea to refuel the truck before bringing it back. If you don't, the rental company will charge you for the gas you used and usually it is more costly.
- **Packing supplies** - boxes, tape, bags. These things add up and will cost a lot when you buy everything at once. You might find it easier to gradually accumulate them. Rental facilities and package stores have them available.
- **Reservations and Deposits** - When you have finalized the date of your move, reserve the rental truck so you can be sure it's available when you need it. Usually rental companies require a deposit.
- **Rental Insurance Protection** - Most insurance companies do not cover your things while you're moving. Verify this information with your current insurance agent. Ask the self-move dealer or the rental company what protection they could offer you. When you pick up the paperwork for the truck, review it to see if the rental protection is included there.

When you pick up the truck, the dealer should be able to show you everything you need to know about it. Ask questions if anything is unclear. Keep all the receipts and paperwork relating to your move like rental, gas, food and lodging expenses. You might need them, especially if your move is required by your employer.



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