

Packing a First-Night Box

Create a "first-night" box containing essentials. These items, many of which you'll be using on the last morning in your old house and the first night and day in your new one, can be loaded on the truck last; label the boxes appropriately so that they will also be the first boxes off. Keep in mind that you should always carry valuables, jewelry, and important paperwork with you.

Basic tools
Bed linens for each bed
Change of clothes for every member of the family
Cleaning supplies
Disposable plates, glasses, and cutlery
Flashlight
Lightbulbs
Medicine
Napkins and paper towels
Nonperishable snacks
Telephone
Toiletries
Towels
Toys for children and pets
Trash bags