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