

# Long Distance Moving Guide

A Guide to Decluttering and Downsizing for Your Next Cross-Country Move

## Decluttering Strategies

### Room-by-Room Approach

Start small and conquer one room at a time. Sort your belongings into three piles: keep, donate, and discard. Be honest with yourself – have you used it in the past year? Does it spark joy (KonMari method, anyone)?

### Seasonal Rotation System

Pack away out-of-season clothes and holiday decorations. This frees up valuable storage space and makes decluttering easier for next year.

### The "One-Touch Rule"

When handling an item, make a decision then and there. Don't put things in a "maybe" pile – either keep it or move it on.

### Embrace Minimalism

Consider adopting a minimalist mindset. Do you really need duplicates of kitchen gadgets or multiple sets of dishes?

## Downsizing Closets

### The One-Year Rule

For clothes you haven't worn in a year (or longer, be honest!), ask yourself: Does it still fit? Does it flatter me? If the answer is no, it's time to let it go.

### Try the "Does it Fit?" Test

Be realistic. If an item doesn't fit comfortably anymore, holding onto it creates unnecessary stress. Donate it to someone who can enjoy it!

### The Outfit Test

Lay out all your clothes on your bed or the floor. Can you create multiple outfits from each piece? If not, consider donating it to make room for mix-and-match versatility

### The Similar But Better Rule

Do you have multiple similar items (think five black cardigans)? Keep the one that fits best, flatters you most, and is in the best condition. Donate the rest.

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## Tips for a Successful Garage Sale

**Plan Ahead:** Advertise your sale online and in local community groups at least a week in advance. Price items competitively based on condition and current market value.

**Cash Only:** For safety and convenience, request cash payments only. Have plenty of small bills for change.

**Presentation is Key:** Display items neatly and attractively. Organize by category (clothes, books, furniture) and ensure everything is clean and presentable.

**Price to Sell:** Be prepared to negotiate, especially towards the end of the sale. Consider offering discounts for bulk purchases.

## Getting the Work Finished

*Have fun While You're Packing*

Put on some upbeat music while you declutter. It can make the process more enjoyable and help you stay motivated.

Challenge yourself to declutter a specific area within a set time limit. This creates a sense of urgency and helps you avoid getting overwhelmed.

Set milestones and reward yourself for decluttering achievements. Treat yourself to a coffee or a relaxing activity after making significant progress.

Do you want more help with your next long distance move? **Colonial Van Lines** is here to help with our concierge packing and moving services. Call us today!

Call for a FREE QUOTE



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