



## To Pack Or Not To Pack

Generally speaking, full pack service by a professional mover will add 75 to 100 per cent to the cost of a local move. Professional packing can cost from \$3.50 to \$30.00 per carton—depending on size and contents. Any packing service can be customized to fit your schedule and plans.

**You are encouraged to choose the extent of packing service that best fits your needs—from the luxury of full service to the economy of doing it all by yourself.**

**FIRST** - Don't be penny wise and pound foolish. There are some things you should never pack yourself—Mirrors, lamps, large pictures and hanging clothes. Those items can be packed on move day in rental containers with a minimum of cost and inconvenience. For example, you can rent a wardrobe carton, which will move a minimum of 24 garments for less than it costs to have one rumpled garment dry-cleaned and pressed. Specialty cartons large enough for lamps, pictures and mirrors are simply too expensive for one time use. They are a great alternative to crating large, expensive or unusual items. **Ask about our SmartPack® Move System.**

**SECOND** – Are you going to have access to your new home prior to move day? If so, that is a great opportunity to “hand carry” many items. You can reuse a few pack containers by packing and unpacking as you go. You might even consider taking kitchen drawers in their entirety—to your new home. Just transfer the contents and then return them to their proper place in the old kitchen. It makes moving small items a snap and you'll get a clear sense of the differences in drawer space between the two kitchens.

**THIRD** – Pack seldom used items first. Buy outdoor trashcans and recycle bins for your new home and then use them as pack containers for basement and workshop items. Plan on packing 2-3 cartons per evening. **REMEMBER** it takes 20-30 minutes per box to pack. If you pack 40-50 boxes that will add up to 25 hours of packing! This formula is one you should keep in mind when considering whether or not to have your movers do the packing for you. It will also give you an idea of the added cost if you don't complete all the packing ahead of time.

Due to recycling and other environmental concerns, boxes may not be as readily available as you think. Beltway Movers has a full selection of cartons and packing materials available at unbeatable prices. We sell not only new but also top condition, used cartons at considerable savings to you.

Use our [carton calculator](#) to determine the total cost of cartons. If you do purchase new cartons, we will refund up to 40% of the purchase price to you if you bring them back to Beltway after your move. If you want to locate cartons on your own—look for the type which can be sealed. While Beltway's van design can and does allow for safe handling of open top cartons—a feature other



movers can't even offer—a sealed carton can be handled and loaded more efficiently.

**We are pleased to have the opportunity to provide you with information, which we know, will prove helpful as you plan your move. The more you understand about the move process the less stressful it will be for you.**

**Need More Help?**

**Ask to speak to a move consultant.**

**Virginia, call 703-971-3550**

**Maryland, call 301-340-2310**