

GIFT GUIDE

Tips for packing and shipping holiday gifts

As the holiday season approaches, many of us are preparing to find the perfect gift for our friends and family. To ensure your carefully selected present reaches its destination in one piece, it's important to use proper packaging techniques.

"Give your gifts the care they deserve by using a suitable sized box, taping and filling," recommends Steve Moorman, senior vice president of franchise operations at The UPS Store Canada. "Keeping your gifts cozy in the right packaging materials will ensure that they are delivered in their original condition."

Here are Moorman's top tips for packing and shipping items:

1. Transporting fragile items. Choose the right-sized box and aim for two inches of space between the contents and each side of the box. Use packing materials to fill open spaces, making sure to place some on the bottom, top and sides. A minimum of 10 per cent overfill of packaging materials on the top will prevent migration of packaged items inside the box. Pack breakables tightly and

protect each item individually before bundling together.

2. Shipping perishable items. Protect perishables with ice-packs, Styrofoam and silica gel packets. An airtight container and filling in any gaps with bubble wrap will prevent food from arriving damaged. Avoid packages tied up with string or wrapped in paper because they may tear and get caught on sorting belts.

3. Transporting heavy items. Start with a new box and create an H-pattern with your tape, also known as the six-strip method, by using 2 or 3-inch-wide packing tape on the top, bottom and seams. Stay away from duct or masking tape because they lose their adhesiveness in colder temperatures.

4. Shipping apparel. Lay gifts flat and separate them into small packages that will fit into a mail slot to save money. Padded envelopes are a great alternative to boxes for items such as these. Avoid folding apparel and sending it in a box.

News Canada



Friday November 24th, 2017

Holiday Market & New Outdoor Market

3 to 9:00 pm

Indoor Market at Knox Presbyterian Church
Outdoor Market in the Municipal lot at Main and Church



Holiday Magic on Main & Mill

6 to 9pm

Horse & Wagon Rides
Holiday Shopping Specials
Magical Activities for Children
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Visit with Santa Claus & Mrs. Claus

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