

# Holiday gift sending: The 12 tips of shipping

In *The Sound of Music*, actress Julie Andrews may have nostalgically sung of "brown paper packages tied up with string..." as one of her favourite things, but they're certainly not a favourite with couriers.

"In today's high-tech shipping hubs, everything is automated and sorting is done by machine. Not only do string and brown kraft paper get caught in conveyor belts, resulting in damage to the package, but the paper can get ripped off and with it goes the address," says Steve Moorman, senior vice president at The UPS Store, Canada's largest retailer of business and packing and shipping services.

To ensure seamless delivery of gifts, Moorman offers "The 12 Tips of Shipping" for those mailing gifts this holiday season:

1. Go With New: Always use a new, corrugated box for shipping. Used ones weaken and can break.
2. No Strings Attached: Do not wrap boxes with string or brown paper.
3. Tiny Bubbles: Bubble wrap and Styrofoam peanuts are the best packing materials.
4. A Cushy Job: For proper protection, cushion all sides of the package with a minimum of two inches of shock absorbing cushioning material.
5. Secure Your Seams: Secure each seam of your box with two inches of packing tape and avoid using masking or cellophane tape— it isn't strong

enough.  
6. Fragile Fare, Send by Air: Fragile items should be sent via air service to minimize time in transit and reduce the possibility of damage.

7. Double Up: Electronic equipment should be double boxed. Ship in its original packaging but add cushioning materials, such as Styrofoam peanuts, and then place inside another larger box. The original packaging isn't enough protection on conveyor systems.

8. Customs Please: Customs forms need strict attention. And be prepared—serial numbers need to be recorded.

9. Food for Thought: Food can only be sent to the U.S. if it is being sent from one individual, not a company, to another individual.

10. Air Tight Tastes Right: Make sure all foods are sealed in an interior airtight container or plastic bag before putting them in a shipping box. If there are air pockets, items vibrate, break and/or crumble.

11. Have A Greeting Party: Always ensure someone is available to accept your parcel. Many holiday goodwill gestures have been thwarted by vacation schedules and closed offices.

12. Easy Way Out: If time is short, The UPS Store can professionally pack and ship the gifts for you.

—News Canada



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## CORRECTION




The Remembrance Day Service listings that appeared in the Wednesday, November 1st edition of the Independent & Free Press stating that the Remembrance Park Service was to be held at 11am on Friday, November 10th was incorrect.

**The Remembrance Day Service at Remembrance Park will be held at 11am on Saturday, November 11th.**

*Sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused.*

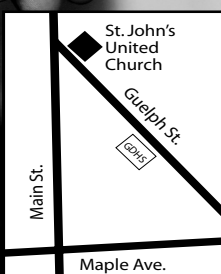
*Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Minds*



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The people of St. John's welcome you to experience the warmth and acceptance of our St. John's United Church family. If you are new to town, or have simply never been in our church before, you are welcome to join us! It's the perfect place to focus on the important things in life. Bring your questions, your concerns and your energy. God is listening and so are we!

Come alone or bring your family (we know that families come in all shapes and sizes). Listen to great music, challenge your mind, or simply centre yourself for the coming week. Services are every Sunday from 10 to 11am, with coffee time and modern, upbeat music from 9:30 until services begin. Nursery care and Junior Worship provided.

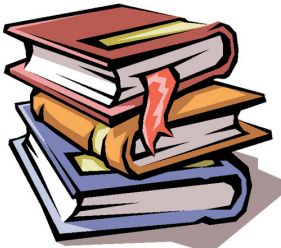


**St. John's United Church... Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Minds.**

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