

Eliminate unnecessary expenses when moving to a new house

A household move can be an expensive proposition, depending upon how much you're moving an where you're moving to. But, there are ways to eliminate unnecessary expenses without

harming the quality of your move.

The first and most important decision that must be made is whether you're going to do the packing or if you're going to have a full, profes-

sional 'full pack' move in which everything is done for you by the crew.

Since most moving companies charge on a per hour basis for their services, a full pack move is more expensive than one in which you do much of the work. The reason is, it takes more time. Still, according to experts, it's a option that deserves consideration, especially if you have expensive valuable to transport.

Professional movers are experienced at moving your treasures carefully. For example, there are special cartons designed specifically for lamps, vases, artwork and other valuables that provide maximum protection against damage. You can't get that same protection from an ordi-

nary cardboard carton from the grocery store, no matter how many sheets or towels you pack around the object. And if the object is damaged, you're responsible for replacement, not the mover. But if you absolutely have to keep the costs low, tell the mover and ask for suggestions. You'll be surprised at how co-operative they will be.

One suggestion is to talk to the mover about a combination pack in which the mover takes responsibility for your furniture, appliances, china, glassware and other valuables, and you pack the soft goods, like linens, bedding and clothing.

Don't forget most professional movers can provide you with the kind of packing cartons you need to self-pack for the greatest safety protection. Professional movers can offer clients special cartons and labels for all types of items including special ones with hanging rods designed exclusively for clothing.

Another way to save money is to talk to the company about timing. A move can be less expensive at certain times of the year, during the slow season. If timing is not crucial to your move, there might be significant savings possible.

Remember to discuss all the details and possibilities with your moving company and keep in mind that there's usually room to negotiate an agreement that suits both parties.

The one thing you have to be to save money is flexible. You're entitled to fair consideration and professional service and you should certainly register your objections with the appropriate authorities if you don't get them. It's equally important to remember this is a business for the mover and they are entitled for their fair wage for the service.

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