

Moving day is fast approaching, and the week before your movers arrive is critical to ensure everything goes smoothly. Whether you've hired a trusted local team like **Southside Moving & Storage** or arranged an interstate delivery, proper planning will save you stress, time, and money.

In this comprehensive guide, we'll cover everything you need to do the week before the movers come: from establishing a solid *packing schedule* to decluttering, planning your essentials, and communicating clearly with your chosen moving company. We'll even touch on using tools like the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) website to verify your mover's credentials and mention how technology like *Akismet* helps keep online discussions clean and distraction-free.

1. Pre-Move Consultation and Planning

Once you've booked your move, the week leading up is your time to finalize all the details with your moving company to avoid last-minute headaches. If you hired a reputable company such as **Southside Moving & Storage**, they will likely offer a pre-move consultation to discuss specific logistics.

Use the FMCSA Website to Verify Your Mover

Before proceeding, if you haven't already, verify that your movers are licensed and insured through the FMCSA website for mover credential verification. This step reduces the risk of falling victim to fraudulent or unlicensed movers.

Discuss the Scope of Services

Understand what your moving package includes. Are you opting for a **full-service move** where the crew packs, loads, transports, and unloads? Or a **basic transport** without packing assistance? This affects what preparations you'll need to make yourself.

Confirm Important Details:

- Moving date and expected arrival time of the crew
- Exact addresses with access information
- Questions about stairs, elevators, and parking — these factors can impact cost and timing
- Any special instructions, such as fragile or bulky items

2. Develop Your Packing Schedule

Conquer your move in manageable stages by creating a detailed **packing schedule**. This plan prevents last-minute chaos and ensures you're organized for when the movers arrive.

Step 1: Inventory and Decluttering

Start by taking inventory of your belongings, room by room. Use this opportunity for **decluttering** — donate, sell, or dispose of items you no longer need to lighten your load and potentially reduce moving costs.

Step 2: Gather Packing Supplies

- Boxes in various sizes

- Packing tape
- Bubble wrap and packing paper
- Labels and markers

Some full-service movers provide packing materials or include packing assistance, but for basic transport, you'll need to prepare these yourself.

Step 3: Pack Non-Essentials First

Begin by packing things you won't need immediately such as seasonal items, decor, books, and out-of-season clothes.

Step 4: Label Everything Clearly

This is where I personally get picky—always label boxes legibly with room destination and contents. Clear labeling saves hours at unloading and setup. Avoid ambiguous labels like "miscellaneous."

Sample Packing Timeline

Days Before Move Task
7-6 Declutter and donate unwanted items
5-4 Begin packing non-essentials and label boxes
3-2 Pack kitchen and other frequently used areas
1 Pack essentials and prepare "first-night" box

3. Essentials Planning: What You'll Need on Moving Day

It's critical to plan a bag or box of essentials you'll keep with you. This includes:

- Important documents (IDs, passports, contracts)
- Medications and prescriptions
- Phone chargers and electronics
- Basic toiletries and a change of clothes
- Snacks and water
- Keys for your new home

Keep these items accessible to avoid rummaging through multiple boxes on arrival.

4. Protecting Belongings and Your Home

Before the movers arrive, take steps to protect both your belongings and your property.

Preparing Your Home

- Clear pathways inside and outside your house to make moving furniture easier
- Notify building management about the moving date if you live in an apartment
- Use protective coverings for floors or walls if necessary
- Confirm parking availability for the moving truck

Protecting Your Belongings

- Disassemble large furniture when possible, label and keep hardware handy
- Wrap fragile items in bubble wrap or padding

- Ensure mattresses and electronics are covered to prevent damage
- Keep valuables and irreplaceable items, like family heirlooms, with you rather than packing them with the movers

5. Clear Communication and Timelines

All your planning comes together with effective communication. Confirm the expected arrival time of **Southside Moving & Storage** or your chosen company and share any last-minute updates promptly.



If you run into unexpected schedule changes, don't hesitate to call your moving coordinator immediately to adjust the plan. One pet peeve in my eleven years on the job as an operations coordinator is *last-minute schedule changes with no call*, which can throw an entire day into disarray.

Also, confirm accepted payment methods and tip policies so everything is clear beforehand.



Bonus: Keeping Your Pre-Move Communication Spam-Free with Akismet

If you're managing your move through online platforms that allow comments or inquiries, tools like **Akismet spam filtering** come in handy. Akismet keeps spam comments away from your site's communication channels, letting you focus on legitimate questions and conversations.

Summary Checklist for the Week Before Movers Arrive

- Verify mover credentials on FMCSA website
- Schedule a pre-move walkthrough or consultation with your moving company
- Create and follow a packing schedule
- Declutter to lighten your load
- Gather and organize packing supplies
- Label boxes clearly and accurately
- Prepare an essentials box or bag
- Protect your home and belongings
- Confirm parking and building access
- Maintain clear, timely communication with your movers

Closing Thoughts

The week before movers like **Southside Moving & Storage** arrive is all about organization and communication. By planning your packing schedule attentively, decluttering what you no longer need, protecting your belongings, and verifying credentials through the FMCSA, you set the stage for a seamless moving day. And remember — clear, honest communication is the backbone of a successful move, so keep your timelines flexible yet precise.

With these steps, you can relax a bit more and look forward [moving company estimates online](#) to settling into your new home!