

**Canadian Association of Movers**  
**Association canadienne des déménageurs**



May 11, 2011

**Packing for Moving Day is Done Best by Professional Movers**

*The Canadian Association of Movers (CAM) recommends that consumers hire a professional mover to do the packing for their move to help ensure the experience is faster, safer and less worrisome.*

**MISSISSAUGA/ONTARIO/PACKING FOR A MOVE, May/11/2011**

You've decided to move with a professional mover. Who will do the packing? Packing is a big part of a move – gathering packing materials, packing the containers and worrying about damage that might result from your inexperience.

Customers can choose from a full-pack (the mover does it all), no-pack (the customer does all the packing) or a partial-pack service. Professional packing relieves the customer of all the work and relieves them from worry about damage. The mover is not responsible for the condition of items in owner-packed containers. Customers should at least opt for a partial pack of their breakables, like china, artwork and mirrors.

Movers use special-purpose packing materials.

Customers should use:

- china barrels for breakables such as dishes
- wardrobe boxes for clothes
- 2 cubic-foot boxes for heavy items (books, canned goods)
- 4 cubic foot boxes for bulky items (lamp shades, kitchen items)
- 5 or 6 cubic-foot boxes (bedding, linens)
- picture cartons

And they should apply the basic rules for good packing:

- large boxes should not contain heavy articles
- standard-size cartons should be used for easy stacking
- heavier items should be placed in the bottom of boxes, on their strongest side, with items separated by cushioning material
- boxes should be filled completely so they don't cave in
- cartons should be secured with tape and clearly marked.

Properly calculating the required packing materials is a challenge. Movers estimate a standard number of containers for a move then adjust for the customer such as for doctors who often have a great quantity of books.

Special items – statues, gun collections, crystal chandeliers – may require custom-made containers and special packing.

Movers cannot transport inadmissible items like explosives, ammunition, aerosol cans and flammables like gasoline, paints or cleaning fluids.

/For further information: Contact the Canadian Association of Movers, Canada's moving industry trade association. CAM helps consumers by identifying good movers and monitoring movers' performance. Consumers should contact CAM at 1-866-860-0065; visit CAM's website, [www.mover.net](http://www.mover.net); fax enquiry to 1-866-601-8499; mail to PO Box 30039, RPO New Westminister, Thornhill, ON, Canada L4J 0C6./