

News Release

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157-08

Nov. 11, 2008

MOVING ON UP... TO SMALLER SPACES

Mayflower Transit Offer Six Steps to Maximizing a Move to Minimized Spaces

ST. LOUIS – From convenience and the environment to life changes and the economy, there are many reasons why more people are leaving “McMansions” for urban lofts and cozy bungalows. Whatever the reason, moving to a smaller space can create considerable challenges, both emotionally and logistically. [Mayflower Transit](#), one of the nation’s oldest and largest moving companies, recommends the following tips as a guide to a successful, stress-free downsize:

Your Future is Clear (of Clutter) – The emotional impact of changing your lifestyle, parting with objects from the past, and going through a house full of belongings can be tedious and extremely emotional. Focus on the future and the new life you are creating instead of dwelling on past memories. Make sure there is enough time ahead of the move to sort through the sentimental items and to adjust to the idea of a new space.

Rate Your Space – Assessing your new space to understand its physical limitations will enable you to make tough packing decisions. Measure each room and determine what furniture will fit and what will have to go. Take photos of each room and sketch a layout to remember the space more precisely.

Out of Sight, Out of Mind – Think of small spaces as valuable real estate where every square foot counts ... and make the most of each one. Assess items by their value and usefulness in your daily life. Follow the rule: “If you don’t touch it daily, don’t take it.” Excuses like, “I never know when I may need it,” or “I’ve always had it,” are not practical reasons to hang on to an unused item through a move.

Learn to Let Go – After identifying the essential items, sort the remaining items into categories such as gifts, long-term storage, trash and donations. Sorting your belongings will prevent you from carrying over the clutter into your new space. And a clutter-free home also “shows” better to prospective buyers.

Parting is Such Sweet Sorrow – Once you’ve made the tough decisions, it’s time to get rid of everything else. Host a “reverse house warming” party – list everything you need to get rid of and invite friends, family and neighbors over to choose what they want. It’s a great way to be sure that your most prized possessions find a good home.

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Mayflower's moving to smaller spaces – add one

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle – Use packing materials that can serve dual purposes. For example, small clear plastic boxes (such as clear fishing tackle boxes) are great options for packing and moving small items. But they also function as practical storage for office supplies, jewelry and other small items that typically get lost in a room.

[About Mayflower Transit](#)

Mayflower Transit, founded in 1927, is one of the nation's oldest and largest van lines and transports household goods, electronic equipment, [trade show exhibits and displays](#), works of art, and specialized freight, utilizing a network of 700 affiliated agents throughout the United States and around the world. Mayflower's headquarters offices are located in suburban St. Louis, Mo. Further information about the company is available at www.mayflower.com.