

RIGHT TIME, RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT MOVE

Many people plan their move carefully and take care of every little detail. When the day of the move arrives, however, these planners think they've done everything and sit back and relax. This is often when a move turns into a nightmare.

It doesn't matter how carefully you plan your move beforehand, the day of the move remains crucial. There are certain things that can only be done on the actual day of the move and if you neglect to do them, your move can easily turn into a disaster. Follow these easy guidelines to prevent this from happening.

Consult the consultant

Before your moving consultant starts working, you should make sure he/she is properly informed. Show him/her everything that needs to be moved – from the corners of the cupboards to the garden shed. This will ensure that the removal company allocates the right amount of space and time for your move. Also discuss the pre-packing of small items with the company.

Get wired

Check that chandeliers and stoves are correctly disconnected. Ask the manufacturer of domestic and electric appliances about the stabilisation of your appliances for transport.

Crawl into the woodwork

Empty all cupboards, chests and desk drawers before the move to avoid damage. A cabinetmaker should dismantle and reassemble custom-made or extra large pieces of furniture like wall units.

Bad medicine

Clean out bathroom cabinets and safely dispose of old medicine bottles. Tighten the lids of all medicine jars and bottles.

These are a few of my favourite things...

Jewellery, glasses, watches, money and cell phones are not covered by insurance. All these valuables as well as keys are your responsibility. Also take note that it is illegal for a removal company to transport firearms, ammunition, chemicals, paints and detergents. Removal companies can also not store any food or perishables that are not tinned. Make provision for the above-mentioned items yourself. Remember to back up your computer files. Although the physical computer is insurable, computer data is not.

Play terminator

Remember to terminate or disconnect the following: newspaper or magazine delivery, telephone, water and electricity and M-Net/DSTV. Notify important institutions and contacts of your change of address. Amongst others, these included: Post Office, Bank, Department of Home Affairs, Receiver of Revenue, Motor Licensing Authority, insurance companies, Municipality, relatives, friends and regular correspondents.

Domestic Violence

People often forget to take care of important domestic matters. Remember to defrost the fridge, dismantle outside aerials, disconnect the stove and drain the fuel from primus stoves, heaters, lamps and lawn movers. It's also important to anchor the drum of your automatic washing machine before transporting it. You can simply do this by attaching the shipping brackets.

Last check

Before you leave, check all the rooms, attic, garden and garage to make sure you haven't left anything behind. Turn off the geyser and all the taps. Close all the windows and lock all the doors. And finally, surrender your old house keys. Now you can sit back and relax.... Before the unpacking starts!