Life Hacks For A Stress-Free House Relocation



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Abstract

Relocating to a new home can be an exciting yet overwhelming experience. Proper planning and smart strategies can transform this daunting task into a smooth and stress-free process. This article explores essential life hacks to simplify house relocation, focusing on effective organization, time management, and practical solutions. From decluttering before packing and labeling boxes efficiently to using technology for inventory tracking and hiring professional movers, these tips are designed to reduce stress and save time. Additionally, the article highlights the importance of self-care during the transition, ensuring a balanced and positive moving experience. Embrace these life hacks to make your relocation journey seamless and hassle-free.



1. Introduction

Moving to a new house marks the beginning of an exciting chapter in life, but the process of relocation often feels like an overwhelming challenge. From packing up belongings to coordinating logistics, even the most organized individuals can find themselves stressed and exhausted. However, with the right approach and a few clever hacks, you can turn this potentially chaotic experience into a manageable and even enjoyable one. This guide introduces practical tips and strategies that can help streamline your move, minimize stress,

and save both time and energy. Whether you're relocating across the street or to a different city, these life hacks—ranging from efficient packing techniques to smart organization and self-care tips—are designed to make your transition smooth and stress-free. Let's dive into the art of mastering house relocation with confidence and ease.

2. Tips for decluttering your home

Moving house can feel like one long checklist of tasks to do, whether it's changing addresses, or switching over utility bills. As well as organising your 'life admin', one task which homemovers should get to grips with to ensure a smooth move in Gold Coast, is to declutter ahead of time.



After all, it's a great opportunity for a clean slate, and there's no better time to declutter your home than when you're sorting through items in order to pack them anyway.

But as anyone who has recently moved will tell you, organising a house move in itself is stressful — let alone throwing a decluttering mission into the mix too. So how can you use the opportunity to declutter when moving, without becoming overwhelmed? To find out, we spoke to decluttering and organising experts who were happy to share their top tips on how to properly declutter before moving home.

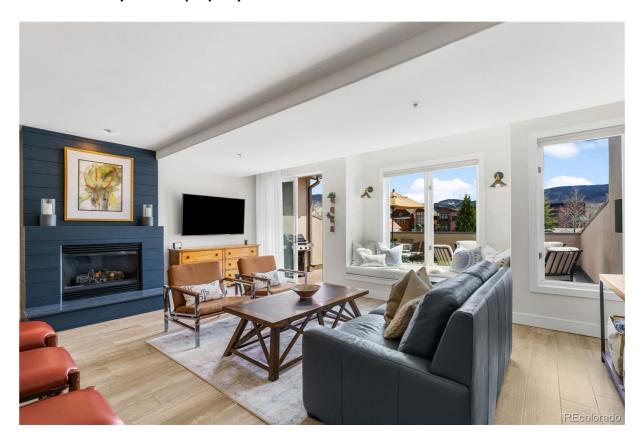
Start as soon as possible

The biggest tip from the experts for a declutter when moving is to get started early. Decluttering expert and APDO (Association of Professional Declutterers and Organisers) member Gillian Gudgeon, explains: "We usually own way more than we realise, so the number one rule would be to start as soon as you make the decision to move."

This way, you'll give yourself enough time to declutter slowly but surely, without the stress of rushing.

Not only that, but starting early will avoid the expense that comes with moving possessions you don't want anymore. "It is pointless packing up things you don't use, or no longer need, and paying a removal company in Gold Coast to move them," says Gillian. "So it makes sense to go through every last possession – and that takes time."

Take videos of your new property



Knowing the specific layout of your new home, and how much storage space you'll have, is key to a thorough declutter ahead of a move, professional organiser Vicky Silverthorn, of You Need A Vicky, explains. As such, she advises taking as many videos of your new home as possible, to allow you to properly analyse its storage capacities before moving.

"You can't have enough videos of that space — every wall, corner and cupboard," she says. "It can be very hard to remember the storage from your first look at a property — and if you have it on video, you can check."

From there, you can understand how much you might need to declutter, in order for your items to properly fit the new space. Photographs and measurements are also extremely useful to have to hand.

Finish up opened items

One easy way to declutter before moving is to make an effort to use up any opened items — which will allow you to easily get rid of the resulting empty containers.

Professional organiser Sue Spencer, founder of A Life More Organised, says: "Use the last few weeks in your current home to work your way through the freezer and kitchen cupboards. Check to see whether there's anything out of date, or anything no longer needed."

"The same goes for cleaning products and toiletries," adds Gillian. "Now is the time to start running down that supply of shower gels and hand creams."

Take it area by area

Vicky advises tackling only small areas of your home at a time, to make the decluttering process less overwhelming. She advises: "Start with the room that has bothered you the most; the room with the most 'stuff' in it.

"Then, focus only on one area, instead of the room (or house) as a whole. Just do that one cupboard for that day, or that shelf, or under the bed. And then stop – finish on a high."

You could also start with the room with the least clutter in, or one which you use the least, so you could start to box up items you want to take with you, and use this room as storage ahead of moving day itself.

Another way to break the job down into manageable chunks is to declutter small areas as and when you have pockets of time, organising expert Laura Price, founder of The Home Organisation says. "Declutter the junk drawer as you're waiting for the pasta to boil, rifle through the medicine cabinet as you're brushing your teeth - you don't need to tackle everything at once," she explained.

Sort through sentimental items

The moving process can be fraught with emotion, and the same is often true of decluttering, especially if it involves getting rid of items seen as sentimental.

However, Vicky has a handy way of reframing the situation. "What we often do is label something as sentimental, when really, we have just owned it for a long time. So I would encourage people to differentiate between the two."

Take that old blanket in your cupboard — does it really have any meaning attached, or has it just lived in your home without much thought for years?

Get the whole family involved

If you live with other members of your family, a declutter before moving isn't something you need to tackle alone.

In fact, Gillian advises getting everyone to declutter their own separate sections of your property. "For example, encourage your children to help with their rooms," she said. "Get them to visualise their shiny new bedrooms, and whether their younger toys and games will really have a place there."

3. Moving Hacks You Need to Pack Like a Pro



Moving to a new place may be exciting, but packing can be tedious. The task doesn't have to be so bad when you know the right moving hacks and tips. The trick is to prepare for boxing and unboxing your stuff as painlessly as possible. Read on to find incredibly useful packing and moving hacks that reduce the stress and expense of relocating.

What Not to Pack in Boxes When Moving

It's tempting to toss anything and everything into boxes when moving in Gold Coast. But there are quite a few items that should never go in a moving box, including:

- Open packages of perishable food (the box will attract pests)
- Valuables (jewelry, collectibles, coins, cash)
- Irreplaceable documents (personal identification, medical records, wills, financial documents, etc.)
- Flammable items (paint, solvents, batteries, any chemicals)
- Gardening supplies (weed killer and insecticides)

Start Packing Six Weeks Before Moving

Make a packing plan with a timeline. The sweet spot seems to be six weeks to pack and move. Here's the breakdown: Use the first three weeks to declutter, purge, and gather packing materials. Use the second three weeks to pack.

It can be done if you have less time than that—say you must move in three days. Take one day to purge, the next to gather supplies, and the third day to pack. It also helps to have a packing checklist to keep you on task and moving along.

Choose Between Boxes and Totes

Plan to use moving boxes and plastic totes. Totes are best if you are packing items that will go into long-term storage. If you prefer having an unlimited array of sizes for packing, boxes are best. Here are the pros and cons of each:

Boxes:

Pros: Cheaper than totes, efficient to flatten and remove, stackable, more readily accessible and available sizes

Cons: Fall apart easily (when wet, for example), can get crushed, can't see through, need extra materials such as tape, can't always reuse

Totes:

Pros: Long-lasting, reusable, good for long-term storage, durable, stackable (for the most part), transparent

Cons: Expensive, susceptible to cracks, caves under weight, heavy to lift/move when stuffed, depending on the design, some may not stack well

Purge Before You Pack

You can pack fast if you purge fast. Purging before you pack will substantially streamline your packing time. And don't purge while you pack, or you'll overthink the process.

Where to start? Here are a few types of items (other than what's in your closet) you might want to toss or donate so you can get packing and have a fresh start in your new digs:

- Throw pillows (they may become misshapen when packed)
- Curtains (ditch the dingy ones for a refresh)
- Decor that doesn't spark joy
- Unread, unwanted, and dusty old books
- Old, stained, and unused rugs
- Chipped dishes and glasses
- Broken small appliances you "want" to fix one day

Donate Large Items That You Don't Want



It's a relief when you get free help from charity organizations happy to remove your couch or furniture pieces and haul them away. Your former treasures take on new life and can help others while removing the hassle of having to move them.

Rent Moving Boxes

If you've moved before, you know the cost of boxes, labels, and shipping tape can add up quickly. Scoring free moving boxes in Gold Coast is a real money saver, but they're not always easy to find. Renting plastic moving boxes is a smart alternative. Companies like Gorilla Bins offer two-week rental packages based on your home size. Packages typically include:

- Moving bins in both medium and large sizes
- Zip ties (so you don't need packing tape)
- Peel and stick labels
- Free delivery and pick up

Places that rent plastic boxes usually wash them between rentals. If you're a germaphobe, some companies, like Bin It and A Smart Move, sanitize after cleaning.

Hack a Vacuum Space Bag

Things like pillows, blankets, and puffy goose-down jackets take up lots of space when packing. When you compress these items, you can pack more lightweight stuff into fewer boxes. The problem is vacuum space bags cost money. A set of three large bags runs about \$20.

But you can DIY them in a few seconds. Here are the quick steps to making vacuum space bags:

- Place an item in a garbage bag.
- Put a vacuum hose into the bag.
- Create a seal by holding the bag's opening around the hose so that no air gets in and out.
- Turn on the vacuum and watch it suck the air out of the bag.
- Once the bag is flat, secure the open end with a rubber band.

Label and Take Photos as You Pack

Packing and labeling your stuff by room is a smart plan. But if you have 10 kitchen boxes, which one has the vegetable peeler? To avoid this problem, create a detailed spreadsheet that lists each box's contents. It may sound time-consuming, but some unique moving hacks include taking photos of box contents and using a packing app.

Spreadsheet and photos: The easiest way to pack when moving is to organize by photographing the stuff that goes into a box before packing using your smartphone or tablet. To make this trick work, you'll need to give the photo and the box the same name for easy reference, for example, kitchen box #5.

Packing app: You can also use an organizing app, like Sortly, designed to make moving more orderly. It lets you create visual inventory lists for each box you pack using photos and printable QR code labels. When you scan the latter using your smartphone or tablet, the app will share pictures of the box's contents.

Make Peeling the Sticky End of Tape Easier



Locating the sticky end of a roll of shipping tape can be challenging and annoying when the tape tears off into chunks or stringy shreds. You can avoid this problem by using a toothpick to mark where to peel.

- Place the toothpick horizontally on the tape's sticky side about 1/2 inch from the end.
- Fold the end of the tape under so it covers the toothpick.

3.1. Tips For Moving Expensive And Rare Items



Did you know that the Gold Coast is one of Australia's most booming cities, where the population is set to reach 820,000 by 2035? This population growth is because people are migrating here to enjoy the sunny weather, beautiful beaches, and to be part of a booming economy.

If you are also planning on moving to the Gold Coast, you will get to see major tourist attractions here like the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary, Surfers Paradise Beach, and SeaWorld, among others.

But while moving to the Gold Coast, you also need to be careful not to damage or lose any of your belongings, especially valuable belongings, like your expensive and rare items that cannot be replaced.

For valuable items, you need to take extra precautions, wrap each item carefully, and ensure the items are safely stored and loaded on the moving truck.

You can hire professional removalists Gold Coast who can wrap anything from glassware to pictures and paintings, electronic equipment to ceramics, and crockery to ornaments. However, if you are still keen on moving these valuable items on your own, you should follow the below tips:

1. Make An Inventory List Of Your Valuables

The first thing you must do is to go through your items and make an inventory of your valuables like:

- Jewellery
- Precious stones
- Silverware
- Gems
- China sets
- Antiques
- Expensive artwork
- Memorabilia
- Fine wines
- Stemware
- Rare coins and currency
- Family heirlooms
- Designer handbags and clothing
- Electronic items like laptops, televisions
- Sport equipment
- Important books and documents
- Musical instruments

This inventory will help you keep track of your items while in transit to see whether everything has arrived safely in your new home. If you are hiring removalists Gold Coast, give

them a copy of this list so they can also keep an eye on these items and ensure they are safely packed and transported to your new home.

2. Do A Valuation Of Your Rare And Expensive Items

Once you have listed all your items, you should get a market valuation to determine their current price in the market so you can see how much value these items hold. You can list this market valuation in your inventory against each item so that you can use this for insurance purposes and claims in case of any untoward accidents.

3. Gather Specialised Packing Materials

Once your list is ready, gather packing material for your valuables and ensure you use good-quality boxes and wrapping paper. It is better to spend a little extra on packing materials to keep these items safe so they do not get damaged, or you might end up paying a fortune later. Some specialised packing materials you should arrange include:

- Sturdy cardboard boxes
- Corrugated boxes
- Mirror and artwork boxes
- Bubble wrap
- Packing peanuts and foam
- Packing tape
- Labels
- Newspaper
- Plastic bins

You can use recycled boxes and packing material, but check them for fine wear and tear and see if the material is sturdy enough to keep your items safe.

If you hire full-service removalists on the Gold Coast, these experts will bring high-quality yet affordable packing materials like cardboard boxes, linen boxes, bubble wrap, tape, and more to pack your valuables safely.

4. Use The Right Sized Boxes To Pack Precious Items

When packing your rare items, you must use the right-sized boxes for each item. It is always better to use smaller boxes for valuable items so that there is less room for the item to move

around in the box and get damaged. Removalists on the Gold Coast also suggest using the following tips for packing your valuables:

Pack valuable glass items in two layers of bubble wrap and then place these in a cardboard box lined with packing peanuts and newspaper.

Use plastic packaging to wrap important documents, place them in a sealed envelope, and then keep them in a plastic bin.

Always place smaller boxes into bigger boxes for added protection, and ensure there is cushioning between the small and big boxes.

Removalist experts also suggest using three layers of packing for your precious items. The first layer should be the protective material like bubble wrap or packing paper, the second layer should be to protect it from rain and heat like packing peanuts, and the last layer should be the protective shield like a cardboard box.

Tip:

Here are some tips on how to pack fragile items for a move.

5. Label Each Box With Valuables As Fragile



Once you have sealed each box with tape, write "FRAGILE" on the sides of each box so that you can take extra precautions for these boxes. If you are moving with professional

removalists on the Gold Coast, highlight these boxes so they can take extra care of these items and keep them safe on the moving truck.

It is also a good idea to keep some of these valuable boxes in your vehicle, like important documents or family heirlooms, so that you can keep an eye on them.

Tip:

Use these tips on how to move art and antiques without damage.

6. Check If Your Valuables Have Reached Safely

Lastly, you must see if all your valuables have reached your new home and check off each item on your inventory list. It is best to do this while the moving company is still there so you can claim any damages as soon as possible.

Most moving companies offer two types of coverage for items: full protection and partial protection. It is always better to get full protection for your valuable items as the cost of replacing them can be very high. You can also get added insurance, like contents insurance for your items, to cover any damages or defects.

Tip:

If you are keeping these items in storage, keep them in climate-controlled storage units with regulated settings to prevent pests, insects and mould. This will keep your valuables in good shape for a long time and prevent any damage.

4. Tips for Moving with Children



The decision is now final. You've accepted the promotion and narrowed down the list of potential new homes, and you'll be moving soon. Now comes the hardest part -- planning the move and telling the kids. Whether moving out of state or just around the block, children and adolescents typically aren't thrilled by such an event. In fact, they rarely relish change of this magnitude. Fortunately, there are some steps you can take to ease the transition. Your attitude about moving and your willingness to let your children share in the experience will influence their feelings. Try following these 10 tips to make the move as anxiety-free as possible.

Have a Family Meeting

Call a family meeting. Order some pizza and gather around the dining room table for a casual dinner and lots of conversation. If you're moving because of a promotion or a new job, tell your children that you're excited about it. Explain why you took it and how it will impact the entire family. Tell them how you feel about the move in Gold Coast. Encourage them to express their feelings and concerns. If this is their first time moving, it could be particularly difficult because they're leaving their family home. Share with them your first-move experience. Let them know you'll be depending on them to help out during the move, from packing to settling in to the new place.

Get the Kids' Feedback on the New Home

If possible, involve your children, especially if they're older, in the selection process of the new home. Once you've narrowed the choices down to two or three houses, get some feedback from the kids. If where you're moving to is within a reasonable driving distance, take them to see the homes. If you're moving to another city, show them photos of each home, describe the neighborhoods in detail and, if you can, take a virtual tour online. Ask them to share their three favorite things about each house. Let them know you'll take their comments into consideration when making the final decision. After you've picked the house, keep them posted through the process. Have a little celebration once you know you've got the house.

Purge Before Packing

Let the kids know that now is a great time to cut through the clutter. Throughout the house, there's bound to be a plethora of things that do not need to accompany you to the new home. Get the kids to help you go through the house, room by room, to identify what should go with you and what you could get rid of. Let them know that you don't want to toss everything. It's OK to keep certain things that hold important memories. However, items -- be they clothes, toys or electronics -- that are no longer used, should be closely considered for the toss pile. And you don't have to toss them ... you can sell them.

Organize a Moving Sale

Once you've figured out what you want to pack and what you want to purge, get the kids to help you organize a moving sale. They can help you sort through everything, organize it, inventory it, and price and tag it. Let them know that the proceeds from the sale will be used for something for the family. In fact, you can have a family meeting and vote to decide on what that might be. Maybe it's a giant flat screen TV for the new house, or maybe it's a chocolate lab puppy. Whatever it is, the more invested the kids are in the goal, the more helpful they'll be with organizing the sale.

Research the New Place



Try to learn as much as possible about the new neighborhood, community and town. Share what you find with your kids. You don't have to make everything sound wonderful; honest, matter-of-fact information will be most helpful in the long run. If you oversell things and raise expectations, there's room for disappointment. Encourage your kids to do their own research. With your help, they can go online and look up community and school Web sites. You could also find copies of some local magazines and a weekend edition of the local paper. You'll be able to learn about community organizations and groups, school events and sports, and other social and civic activities.

Make Room Plans

To get your children excited about the new house, make room plans. You don't have to limit yourself to their rooms only. If they're interested in helping arrange and decorate other rooms in the house, let them. Take a trip to the hardware store to look at paint swatches. If you're going to purchase new furniture and the kids are interested, take them with you. For teenagers, set a budget and let them tackle their own rooms -- picking out colors, linens,

rugs and furniture. Encourage them to shop at consignment and thrift stores. For younger kids, you can set a budget and work with them on executing their vision. Then, when it's all done, you can invite some family or friends over for a "big reveal" like they do on TV shows.

Do a Site Visit

If you're able, take the kids to the new place for a visit. If you're just moving across town in Gold Coast, plan to spend the day doing a walk-through of the house and a tour of the new neighborhood. Then you can visit the local branch of the public library and each kid's school. If you're moving a great distance away, you might still be able to do this, even if it just means beating the moving van by a couple of days and staying in a local hotel. In addition to touring the children's schools and the local library, make arrangements to see any additional facilities you might end up frequenting like the area YMCA, community theater or music school. You can also drive your children by where you'll be working.

Host a 'See You Soon' Party

One of the most difficult things about moving for any child is saying goodbye to friends. You could lessen the anxiety of this by hosting a get-together with family, friends and neighbors and call it a "See You Soon" party. During the party, make sure everyone exchanges contact information, and take photos of your kids with their friends. Between texting, e-mails and phone calls, your kids should be able to maintain old friendships while transitioning to their new surroundings and making new friends. Depending on the distance of your move, you could speak with the parents of your children's friends about planning a weekend visit or meeting somewhere halfway for a day visit.

Map the Move

If you're moving a few towns away or to another state, pull out the GPS, maps and atlas. This can be especially helpful if you're leaving behind friends and family members you know you'll be returning to visit. Map out the moving route and mark some interesting places to visit and sights to see along the way. This will make the trip go by more quickly, and it will be more engaging for you and the kids. Keep the maps handy for when you arrive at your destination, too. Get the kids to help you plot out routine routes such as from the house to school or from the house to the local park, mall or movie theater.

Be a Tourist in the New Place

You've been in the new house for almost a week. Slowly, but steadily, the boxes are being unpacked, and you and the kids are starting to settle in to your new digs. Now it's time to settle in to your new community. If there is one, buy a guidebook for your new city. Grab it and a calendar and sit down with the kids to plan some fun outings around the area. Whether you decide on apple or strawberry picking at a local farm, hitting the natural

science museum, or hiking, rafting or kayaking at the nearby state park, it's important to engage your kids and show them all that your new hometown has to offer. If they've met some new friends in your neighborhood or at school, encourage each child to bring a friend along on your outings.

5. How to Get Organized After a Move



You've just moved into a new home. Congratulations! But, now what? You might be busy over the next couple of weeks, but you will still need to sleep, eat, and shower! By unpacking efficiently and taking the necessary steps to settle in, you can minimize the chaos during your first few weeks at your new location and make sure that your life continues in a smooth, uninterrupted manner.

Unpacking

Unpack what you need to eat. Unpack your essential kitchen appliances and any perishable foods. Moving and unpacking requires a lot of energy, so even though you will be very busy over the coming weeks you need to make sure you are able to eat whenever you feel the need. Be wary of relying on takeout—it will sustain you for a little while, but it doesn't have as much nutritional value as other, healthier foods.

Unpack your bedding. Unpack your sheets, pillows, pillowcases and blankets, and make your bed. Make sure you have a change of clothes comfortable enough to sleep in. You will be extremely tired after you are finished moving all of your things, and if you fail to prioritize

what you need in order to sleep, you may find yourself exhausted with nowhere to collapse at the end of your first night.

Unpack what you need to get ready every day. It won't look good if you're late or absent from work during the days following your move simply in Gold Coast because you can't find your toothbrush! You don't need to break out your razors and lotions right away, but you should have at least a few necessities on hand.

Unpack everything else according to how soon you are going to need it. Prioritize! You are going to want access to the most important things right away so that you don't have to go without them for very long.

Preparing to Unpack



Set a deadline to be completely unpacked. For an apartment, one or two weeks should do the trick, but if you've just moved into a house you should expect to take about a month. It is important not to procrastinate unpacking—the sooner you decide to get it done, the more likely it is that you will actually do it.

Assign rooms their purposes. Make a list of all the rooms in your new home—any bedrooms, bathroom, the kitchen, the dining room, etc. Make a short list of the pieces of furniture and types of belongings you plan to keep in these rooms. Be sure to assign each room a clear purpose—not just "extra room" or "general storage." This will go a long way in helping you consolidate your belongings.

Clean your home. Cleaning before you begin unpacking rather than afterwards will ensure a much better experience as you will be able to identify and access problem areas much more easily.

Inspect your property. Make sure that all of your boxes and pieces of furniture are accounted for and intact. The sooner you know that something has gone missing or been damaged, the more likely it is that you will be able to fix it.

Decide where the largest pieces of furniture will go. This will create space for you to unpack your smaller objects in an organized manner, and also give you a much better idea of where you want everything else to be stored.

Break out a trash bag and a pair of scissors. You'll want a trash bag for discarded tape and packing peanuts, bubble wrap, or other protective materials during unpacking, and a pair of scissors for cutting boxes open. Making sure these tools are accessible right away will prevent you from having to frantically search for them later, when you really need them.

Settling In



Inspect your home. It is important to know if any problems exist in your home; after all, you can't do anything to fix them unless you know they are there! If you discover any of the following issues, immediately contact your realtor or leasing complex for assistance.

Determine plans for fires and other emergencies. Create an evacuation plan for extremely dangerous natural disasters. Agree with your new housemates upon an escape plan in the event of a fire, or familiarize yourself with your living complex's emergency protocol. Know where your local fire station and police station are and how to contact them in the event of an emergency.

Set up any utilities you still need. This includes gas, electric, cable, internet, water, and any security or trash collection services you may require. It is important to get this done as soon as possible; living without the means to cook, stay warm, bathe, or entertain yourself will create a lot of unnecessary stress which will doubtlessly interfere with your attempts to organize yourself after your move.

File change of address forms. File change of address forms with the post office and update your address with your banks and your credit card, insurance, and utility companies. It is also a good idea to update the address on your driver's license, voter's registration, and car registration.

Meet your neighbors. Make the first move and introduce yourself in Gold Coast to your neighbors! Taking initiative can be a little nerve-wracking, but it will paint you in an extremely flattering light. One of your neighbors could be your new babysitter, job lead or even best friend, so it's always prudent to start forming connections.

Conclusion

Relocating to a new home doesn't have to be a stressful ordeal. By adopting effective planning, utilizing practical hacks, and staying organized, you can simplify the moving process and enjoy the excitement of a fresh start. From decluttering and labeling boxes to leveraging professional assistance and taking care of your well-being, every step can contribute to a smoother transition. A stress-free move is within reach when you approach it with the right mindset and strategies. By implementing these life hacks, you can not only save time and energy but also create a positive moving experience. Embrace the change, focus on the opportunities ahead, and let these tips guide you toward a seamless and enjoyable relocation journey.

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