



# MOVERS HANDBOOK



**ALLIED**<sup>®</sup>  
*The Careful Movers*

## Moving Done the Way You Want It.

At Allied, we understand that moving isn't just another event you have to get through – it's a life-changing moment that can be memorable if you hire the right movers to care for your belongings.

As one of the largest moving companies in the world, we've had a lot of practice in all types of moves – big, small, long distance, local and international – so you can rest assured that you and your belongings are in expert care throughout every step of the move process.

And we come recommended. Voted for four consecutive years as "9 Out Of 10 Customer Recommended" by thousands of women in the United States\*, Allied utilizes its unique blend of superb user experience, protection and packing options, and innovative technology to give you that ultimate move experience that no other moving company can match.

So make your move go your way – partner with Allied for customized moving and storage solutions.

\* Awarded by Women's Choice Awards, an independent research firm of WomenCertified Inc. Visit [www.womenschoiceaward.com](http://www.womenschoiceaward.com) to learn more.







## Your Own Move Consultant

There are a lot of details that go into orchestrating a move and keeping every single one of your belongings safe. That's why when you choose Allied, you'll get your very own Personal Relocation Consultant to work out the details.

Your Allied Personal Relocation Consultant is a trained expert in every facet of the move process and will assist you in:

- Developing a timely, accurate quote
- Customizing a Personal Moving Plan that's specific to your move
- Establishing expectations so there are no surprises
- Reviewing timelines with you
- Recommending what belongings should go with you versus getting loaded on the truck
- Serving as your main point of contact for any questions that may arise

So, sit back and let our experts handle the move details while you focus on transitioning to your new destination.



## It's Time to Pack.

Allied recognizes that every move is different and comes with various needs – this includes how to pack your belongings. That's why we offer various packing options so that you can decide what makes sense for your move.

Allied utilizes the latest packing methods and materials to help keep everything safe during transport. But as part of our custom moving solution, you get to decide how you want your belongings packed. Choose from:

### Full-Service Packing

Have all your household items packed by our highly trained crew. We use the most up-to-date packing methods and materials in the industry. Allied pioneered stretch wrap furniture to protect upholstered furniture from any soil damage. It's a strong clear plastic that covers and clings to furniture, and comes at no additional cost to you.

### Partial Packing

If you only need help packing breakable or high-value items like dishes, artwork, glassware or particularly fragile furniture and mirrors, then our Partial Packing option is right for you.

### Pack Yourself

If you'd prefer to pack on your own, ask your Allied Personal Relocation Consultant about securing a range of high-quality, affordable boxes and professional packing materials to make the job as easy on you as possible. And we'll even provide you with our free Move Guide that shares our years of packing expertise.

No matter what packing option you choose, Allied will be there to assist because it's not just another move for us, it's a memorable life moment for you.







## On the Road.

Allied's expertise travels with you every mile of your move. We have one of the world's largest and modern fleets of moving vehicles. And we utilize the latest technology while on the road.

Our proprietary system of tagging and labeling, ensures that all of your possessions are properly loaded, safely transported and efficiently accessible at your destination.

As a responsible motor carrier, Allied places a high priority on safety. All drivers are required to complete a pre-qualification "certification of safety knowledge test" and a "defensive driving course." And on an ongoing basis, all active drivers and Safety Officers are required to complete monthly training assignments on important regulatory compliance topics and safe driving practices. This training, in addition to our Certified Labor Program, truly ensures that you, your family and your belongings are always in the best care.



## Simplify your moving process while strengthening your community.

Allied is a proud partner of The Salvation Army. By donating clothing, electronics, furniture, and household goods to be sold in Salvation Army stores, you help transform lives in your community. Visit [www.satruck.org](http://www.satruck.org) to schedule your free pick up.





## You're Home!

Thanks to Allied's commitment to on-time delivery, you'll feel right at home in your new destination.

All your belongings will be professionally unloaded with the same care and attention to detail with which it was loaded.

Allied crew members protect your new home with special materials such as neoprene runners for floor protection, cardboard, door jam protectors and more when unloading your belongings. The well-labeled boxes are carefully placed in the right rooms to get you settled into your new home right away.

### Need help unpacking?

Your Allied crew will meet any requirements that you requested in your Personal Moving Plan.

## Welcome home and thank you for choosing Allied!







[www.allied.com](http://www.allied.com)

## Allied Services

**Meeting your specific needs, not ours...Guaranteed.**

Just as every family is different, every family's relocation needs are different. At Allied, we tailor your **Allied Personal Moving Plan** to your needs, your schedule, your budget. Hence the name, **Personal Moving Plan**.

Our **Packing Options** and additional services let you do as much as you like or as little as you like when it comes to your big move. We wouldn't have it any other way.

And, we're probably like you in that we don't like surprises. With the **Allied Advantage**, when you are given a guaranteed quote by your **Allied Personal Relocation Consultant** at the start of your move that is the total you will see on your invoice when the work is done.\*

Your quote will be based on what you tell us you need and the price of the services and materials required to meet those needs.

relax.  
we carry  
the  
load.<sup>SM</sup>

To learn more, please contact your local agent shown below.

**Contact:**  
Federal Companies

**T:** 800-747-4100

**E:** [marketing@federalcos.com](mailto:marketing@federalcos.com)

An Interstate Agent for Allied Van Lines



## Packing Options

- **Full-Service Packing** All items in your home are packed by our experts using the most up-to-date packing methods and materials in the industry.
- **Fragile Packing** You define your breakable or high value items such as dishes, glassware, artwork, fragile furniture, mirrors, etc. We professionally pack them with care and you pack all other belongings.
- **Do-It-Yourself Packing** Allied can provide boxes and materials (see sidebar on this page) to make your job as easy as possible.

## Basic Services

- **Loading** Every container and all individually loaded items are labeled, inventoried and loaded in a systematic process. Additionally, all upholstered furniture is wrapped in stretch wrap, a strong, clear plastic that completely covers the furniture, protecting it from dirt and damage.
- **Transportation** All of our moving vans are equipped with air-ride suspension systems to ensure these contents travel in the safest manner possible. All trucks are driven by licensed professionals.
- **Unloading** Upon arrival, all items are checked off as they are unloaded. When unloading, furniture, boxes and other belongings are placed in the rooms you designate. Items disassembled at origin for carrier convenience will be reassembled. Additionally, we protect your new home by using several types of floor runners to prevent stains or scratches on carpet and wood flooring. Door jamb, banister and external stair/walkway protection is also provided where appropriate.

## Guaranteed Price Protection

- **Guaranteed Price Protection** means that when you receive a written guaranteed quote for the services you agreed upon that is the price you'll pay.\*\* We stand behind our commitment to no surprises at the end of your move—we'll even put it in writing. Talk with your Personal Relocation Consultant to create the right Personal Moving Plan and services for you, and a detailed explanation of the cost of your move.

## Additional Services Available

- **Unpacking** Boxes are opened and contents are removed and placed on a flat surface. If desired, Allied may provide placement needs. Boxes and packing material removal is included within this optional service.
- **Crating** High value items such as artwork, electronic equipment or delicate collectibles may need some added attention. Consider custom crating to protect fragile or non-standard sized belongings.
- **Cars/Boats** Depending on the type of car you have, either Allied will transport it or we will coordinate the move for you. Boats are typically handled by an approved third party and transported on an open trailer.
- **Assembly/Disassembly** We can help with disassembly of furniture, swing sets, etc., prior to your move or reassembly upon arrival at your new home.
- **Third Party Services** Upon request, third party services such as appliance connect/disconnect, pool or hot tub disassembly/assembly, and cleaning services can be arranged for you.
- **Shuttle Services** If access to your home is difficult because of a narrow driveway or obstruction, Allied will provide a small truck to transport your belongings from your old home to the moving van, or from the moving van to your new home.
- **Storage** Storage-in-transit is available for your belongings for up to 90 days. After 90 days, goods are transferred to permanent storage. Storage is a good option if you are not yet able to move into your new home for any reason.

Other services not included here may be available. Just ask your Personal Relocation Consultant before your estimate is completed.

## Packing Materials

Allied has a wide range of boxes and packing materials available to help you organize and safeguard your belongings, including:

- Custom-made crates
- Dish pack for dishes/china
- Double-wall cartons for fine china/crystal
- 1.5 cu. ft. cartons for heavy items
- 3.0 cu. ft. cartons
- 4.5 cu. ft. cartons
- 6.0 cu. ft. cartons
- Wardrobe cartons
- Mirror cartons
- Mattress cartons
- Blanket wraps
- Specialty pads








# Home Connections Made Free & Easy.

Allied Home Connect helps homeowners by streamlining the process of setting up utilities and services, Free of charge.

 (844) 770-0040



## STEP 1 Get Connected

- Call 1-844-770-0040
- or scan QR Code



## STEP 2 Select Services

- Explore utility providers
- Choose service options



## STEP 3 Confirm Orders

- Order confirmation
- Track order process

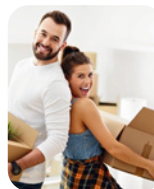
## GET STARTED



## Your Home, Move-In Ready

Our team delivers complimentary services that conveniently add value during your move. Save time and money on your home service connections. From researching your new address, to figuring out all the logistics in connecting your new services, we've got you covered. No more headaches!

**Save Time | Save Money | Reduce Stress**



Allied Home Connect is a lifesaver. They handled everything for my families new home and gave me a side by side comparison for internet and home security (options) available in my area. Highly recommended!  
Lara M., Chicago



I've moved a lot being in the military, and Allied Home Connect is by far the best service I've used. They handled everything for the house, so all we had to do was move in. I will definitely use them again.  
The Garcia Family, Dallas



Phone



Television



Security



Internet



Electric



Gas



Trash



Water



# PRICING YOUR MOVE

To get the best rate, book early and be flexible.



- The price level of your move is affected by numerous factors, including the specific dates you need, the month, day of week and how early you book.



- Similar to making airline reservations, costs rise when you travel during high-demand periods (e.g. holidays) or when you book at the last minute.

## ALLIED VAN LINES PRICING LEVELS

### GREEN RATE



◆  
Reflect savings up to  
10% below standard pricing

◆  
Lower demand periods (fall,  
winter) and dates early in the  
week or early in the month

### YELLOW RATE



◆  
Reflect savings up to  
5% below standard pricing

◆  
Average demand periods,  
such as dates in mid-week  
or mid-month

### RED RATE



◆  
Standard pricing

◆  
Most desired dates, typically  
end of the month and  
summer weekends

### GOLD RATE



◆  
Premium pricing

◆  
High-demand dates,  
near full capacity  
(peak season, weekends,  
end of month)

Sample Calendar

JUNE						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11





www.allied.com

## We're More Than Just Careful... We're Carefully Screened.

Your safety can never be taken for granted. That's why Allied takes the time to know the backgrounds of everyone on a moving team - this includes drivers, packers, laborers and even sales representatives.

As part of the **Allied Certified Labor Program**, our agents are required to follow strict procedures to ensure that all drivers and agency personnel who enter a residence have passed rigid screening protocols in advance of moving day.

### Certification Screening

Not all applicants qualify for Allied Van Lines certification so you have the extra reassurance that we've already done the work to keep your safety and security in the forefront. Screenings include:

- Verification of identity
- Verification of legal work status
- Identification of previous criminal convictions
- Checking against sexual offender registries
- Assessment of propensity toward violence
- Assessment of propensity toward theft
- Assessment of propensity toward drug abuse

### Your Safety Matters

Safety is something that shouldn't be taken for granted and we recognize that at Allied Van Lines. Thousands of women even recognize this fact because Allied was selected as the **2015 Most Recommended Moving Company** in America by Women's Choice Awards. So move with confidence with Allied and know that we have your safety in mind.



To learn more, please contact your local agent or visit [allied.com](http://allied.com).

#### Contact:

Federal Companies

T: 800-747-4100

E: [Marketing@federalcos.com](mailto:Marketing@federalcos.com)



## Making a quality investment is easy with Allied.

Nothing earns a customer's trust like quality. Since 1996, Allied instituted a Quality Service Audit (QSA) to assure our customers are getting the highest quality service available anywhere.

Allied utilizes a third-party provider to conduct a customer service satisfaction survey after each move. Based on customer feedback, we have developed a set of exclusive, quality-enhancing programs to ensure every move goes the right way.

### Quality Standards

Allied Quality Standards were developed to facilitate system-wide continuous improvement, ensuring customer satisfaction. The standards defined address "key drivers of customer satisfaction" and involve all service providers that touch our customers.

### Quality of Service Audit System

Developed in 1996, the QSA is a customer survey process that allows us to gain critical, timely customer feedback on all aspects of the customer's satisfaction. Over 32% of our customers are contacted with the results closely monitored daily by agents and corporate alike.

### Allied Master Movers®

Motivating our drivers to reach new levels of performance and expertise is what keeps our service levels growing and improving. There are several standards a driver must achieve in order to attain the title of Allied Master Mover®, including ranking in the top percentile of all Drivers in the Quality of Service audit system.

### Safety Standards

As a responsible motor carrier, Allied places a high priority on safety. All drivers must complete an in-depth pre-qualification screening, as well as on-going testing and training classes to ensure compliance with the United States Department of Transportation regulations.

### Equipment Standards

All vehicles must be inspected daily by the Driver and there are mandatory regulatory inspections 3 times a year. Vehicles must regularly be cleaned inside and out, and appearance must be at an acceptable level at all times.



### Quality is key!

Don't underestimate the value Allied places in obtaining your feedback and incorporating it into our practices. It has helped to shape our business through the 90 years we've been around and reinforces our commitment to delivering an exceptional moving experience. Trust Allied—your moving company of choice.







## Allied Extra Care Protection

When you choose Allied for your move, you can rest assured that your belongings have the best protection available. Even though our expert packers use specialized packing techniques and equipped vehicles, unforeseen road conditions or other uncontrollable factors may damage an item. But that's why Allied offers Extra Care Protection (ECP) – protection that allows us to rectify the situation quickly, keeping you happy with our services during your move.

### Extra Care for Your Valuables

There are two levels of coverage to choose from – Basic and ECP. Basic Liability Protection provides repair or replacement cost up to a maximum of \$0.60 per pound per article, while ECP provides full replacement value and even extends coverage to matched pairs and sets such as lamps, end tables, love seats, and candlesticks.\*

For example: Let's say you bought a new sofa for \$1,900 and it weighs 100 pounds. If the sofa was damaged beyond repair during the move, the following is what you would get:

Plan	Compensation
<b>Basic</b>	\$60 (100 lbs x \$0.60 per lb)
<b>ECP</b>	\$1,900.00 (full replacement value*)

### Get the Right Coverage

When it comes to protecting your belongings, one size does not fit all. The level of protection you need may be greater than minimum levels based on your total shipment weight. Be sure to consider high-value items such as artwork, electronic equipment, crystal and porcelain collectibles. Consult your homeowner's or renter's insurance policy for recommended coverage levels or use the inventory worksheet on the backside.

**Still not sure which coverage?** Your Personal Relocation Consultant can provide you with more information and work with you to determine your household's total valuation. The bottom line is we want you to be satisfied when we drive away. So get the coverage that's right for your move – talk to your Personal Relocation Consultant today.

### ECP FULL REPLACEMENT CHART

Protection Level	No Deductible	\$250 Deductible	\$500 Deductible
\$10,000	\$21	\$0	\$0
\$15,000	\$57	\$0	\$0
\$20,000	\$92	\$17	\$0
\$25,000	\$138	\$50	\$30
\$30,000	\$193	\$86	\$63
\$35,000	\$248	\$153	\$103
\$40,000	\$303	\$193	\$138
\$50,000	\$361	\$238	\$175
\$60,000	\$439	\$296	\$223
\$75,000	\$528	\$365	\$281
\$100,000	\$689	\$486	\$383
\$125,000	\$851	\$644	\$541
\$150,000	\$998	\$822	\$715
\$175,000	\$1,167	\$966	\$842
\$200,000	\$1,350	\$1,120	\$979
\$225,000	\$1,519	\$1,258	\$1,108
\$250,000	\$1,743	\$1,393	\$1,223
\$250,001+	**	**	**

### Rates effective 5-01-2023

\*\*For protection levels that exceed \$250,000 your cost is based on the applicable cost for \$250,000 of valuation plus \$0.73 per \$100 of additional valuation.

\*Certain terms and conditions apply. Replacement value is at today's full replacement cost – not a depreciated value. Complete replacement of multiple item sets of china, gold and silver flatware, and crystal glassware are excluded. ECP pairs and sets protection may not apply to some corporate relocation contracts with Allied; consult your company's relocation program. Allied's ECP charges are based on the protection level and deductible option you select in writing. You must declare a minimum value no less than \$8.00 per pound times the total shipment. The shipper is responsible for removal of valuables and breakables from all goods being moved including, but not limited to, drawers, safes, luggage, files, etc. The following items must not be included in the shipment and will not be covered by the carrier's ECP plan: Jewelry, coins, other negotiable paper (e.g. stock certificates, bonds, etc.) Important personal documents (e.g. deeds, titles, tax papers, birth certificates, etc.) and collections (e.g. stamps, baseball cards etc.). The ECP plan is available only on shipments within the U.S. (except Hawaii) and shipments to/from Canada.

Additional charges apply if storage-in-transit is required.

# Allied Protection Plans



Article	Est value
<b>LIVING ROOMS</b>	
Sofa/Loveseat/Chairs	_____
Coffee/End Tables	_____
Other Furniture	_____
Pictures	_____
Knick-knacks	_____
Rugs/Carpets	_____
Lamps	_____
Drapes	_____
_____	_____
Total	_____
<b>DINING ROOM</b>	
Furniture	_____
Rugs/Carpets	_____
Drapes	_____
Other	_____
_____	_____
Total	_____
<b>KITCHEN</b>	
Furniture	_____
Small Appliances	_____
Major Appliances	_____
Washer/Dryer	_____
Dishes	_____
Pots & Pans	_____
Utensils	_____
Other	_____
_____	_____
Total	_____

Article	Est value
<b>CHINA / SILVER / GLASSWARE</b>	
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
Total	_____
<b>BEDROOMS</b>	
Master	_____
#1	_____
#2	_____
#3	_____
Pictures	_____
_____	_____
Total	_____
<b>LINENS AND CLOTHING</b>	
Men's	_____
Women's	_____
Footwear	_____
Coats	_____
Bedding	_____
Towels	_____
Other	_____
_____	_____
Total	_____
<b>REC ROOM / FAMILY ROOM / DEN</b>	
Furniture	_____
Drapes	_____
Rugs/Carpet	_____
Other	_____
_____	_____
Total	_____

Article	Est value
<b>BASEMENT / ATTIC</b>	
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
Total	_____
<b>ELECTRONICS</b>	
TVs	_____
Turntable/Stereo	_____
Speakers	_____
Gaming Systems	_____
Cameras	_____
Video Camera	_____
DVDs	_____
Tapes/CDs/Records	_____
Computer Equipment	_____
_____	_____
Total	_____
<b>HIGH VALUE ITEMS</b>	
_____	_____
_____	_____
Total	_____
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	
Clocks	_____
Knick-knacks	_____
Figurines	_____
Books	_____
Luggage	_____
Tools	_____
Holiday Decor	_____
Sewing Supplies	_____
Golf Clubs	_____
Bicycles	_____
Garden Equipment	_____
Patio Furniture	_____
Sporting Goods	_____
Toys	_____
_____	_____
Total	_____
<b>MOTORIZED ITEMS</b>	
Vehicle #1	_____
Vehicle #2	_____
Trailers	_____
_____	_____
Total	_____
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	
_____	_____

## Alternative methods for determining valuation:

The home insurance industry often recommends a protection amount for household contents equal to 50% or more of the value of your home. Factor in high value items such as art, antiques, crystal and collectibles.

### FOR EXAMPLE

Home Value:	\$150,000
Protection %:	x 50%
Protection Level:	\$75,000

### YOUR HOME

Home Value:	_____
Protection %:	_____
Protection Level:	_____

Independent insurance actuaries have determined an average household today represents a value of \$6 – \$8 per pound.

### FOR EXAMPLE

Shipment Weight:	10,000 lbs.
Value/Pound:	x \$8
Protection Level:	\$80,000

### YOUR HOME

Shipment Weight:	_____
Value/Pound:	_____
Protection Level:	_____



DOING THE  
MOST GOOD















## Shipping Lithium Ion Batteries

The Department of Transportation's hazardous materials Transport law (49 U.S.C. § 5103) prohibits our customers from including Lithium Ion Cells greater than 60 Wh and Batteries greater than 300Wh in their shipment.

These items are considered Class 9 Hazardous Materials.

### Identifying Lithium Ion Batteries

It is the customer's responsibility to identify all the lithium batteries included in their shipment. Review the manufacturer's markings on batteries or consult an owners' manual to determine if a battery is acceptable for shipping.

The watt hour rating of a battery is calculated by multiplying the voltage by the amp hours.

As an example, an 18 volt power tool battery with a 2 amp hour rating is calculated as 36 watt hours.

### Batteries That Often Exceed Limits

Batteries that commonly exceed the allowable limits include, but are not limited to: Outdoor power tools (trimmers, mowers), Electric Bicycles, Electric Scooters.

### Shipping Allowed Batteries

Even if a battery doesn't exceed the Shipping limits from the Department of Transportation, we encourage you to carefully pack batteries to avoid any exposure to other loose items that could short at battery and cause a fire.

### Alternative Arrangements

Before moving, find recycling centers for older Lithium Ion batteries. Consider transporting all Lithium Ion batteries in your personal vehicle or utilize Fedex or UPS to ship your batteries to your new home.

### Avoid the Risks

Lithium Ion batteries have the potential to cause fires on your moving van. Additionally, batteries can be damaged by heat especially if moving to or from the Southern U.S.

### Need Help?

If you have any questions or concerns about shipping Lithium Ion batteries, please don't hesitate to contact us. Your safety is our top priority!



## Property Protection Standards

The following are Allied's standards in protecting your property when loading and unloading. We will:

- Complete a walk through (inside & outside of the home), note any pre-existing property damage or concerns and review with you.
- Cover the bottom of the walk-boards with cardboard or plywood to ensure the driveways and walkways are protected.
- Use Carpet Mask, Rug Runners, Masonite or cardboard on all carpeted areas to avoid stains.
- Use Masonite, cardboard or neoprene runners to protect all wood, marble, tile, stained and finished concrete and travertine floors.
- Protect walls and pillars using Masonite, cardboard, pads or plywood.
- Use blue/painter's tape to adhere to wall surface to eliminate damage to paint/drywall.
- Use door jamb protectors, corner boards, folded cardboard or pads on elevators, entryways and other high traffic doorways.
- Pad all banisters with moving pads.
- Pad wrap all furniture in the home at origin and un-pad all furniture in the home at destination.
- Check the residence (interior & exterior) to ensure all debris, tape, cardboard and any other trash has been removed.



Mission Possible: My Big Move

My name: \_\_\_\_\_

My new address and phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Good things about my new neighborhood: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Good things about my new home: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Activities I would like to join: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

My new school colors and mascot: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

My best friends' addresses and phone numbers:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Moving Day Backpack Checklist:

- ☐ Scrapbook/photographs of my friends
- ☐ My favorite stuffed animal/toy
- ☐ My favorite books
- ☐ Letter writing pen and paper
- ☐ A disposable camera to take pictures of the big day
- ☐ Sidewalk chalk to decorate my new driveway
- ☐ My favorite snack
- ☐ Travel-size games



# Moving With Children

## A Guide To Creating A Smooth Move For Families

Help your child beat the moving blues by following these simple suggestions and reminders from Allied Van Lines and Thomas Olkowski, Ph.D., top child psychologist and author of the book [Moving with Children](#).

### Communication Is Key

- **Talk the Talk:** Tell your child about the move as soon as possible – a child should never overhear the news by accident.
- **Discuss the Possibilities:** Talk to your children about the move, sharing the details, encouraging their questions and listening to their thoughts. Help your children talk about what is hard about the move, but also about what exciting things they might discover in their new neighborhood.
- **A Family Affair:** Schedule regular family meeting times to discuss any questions or concerns, and look for frequent opportunities to talk with your kids about the move, even if they aren't asking questions.
- **Engage Your Child:** For younger children, read children's books about moving. Talk about the pictures in the books and how they think the people in the pictures might feel.



### Help Your Children Say Goodbye

- **Party Time:** Throw a moving party! This is a great opportunity for children to create scrapbooks and photo albums with their friends.
- **Sharing Memories:** Have your child make a list of pleasant memories he or she may want to retain about your neighborhood and community.

- **Saying Goodbye:** Supply children with autograph books to use when saying goodbye. The book can be used for personal messages from friends and loved ones.
- **Lasting Impression:** Leave a small memento at your old home that will symbolize your child's life there – plant a flower in the yard, hide a tiny toy in a secret place, or have your kids write a letter of welcome to the new children who might be moving in.

### Involve Your Children In The Moving Process

- **Let Them Help:** Involve your children in your relocation. For example, bring older children on house-hunting trips or photograph the house you've selected as well as the neighborhood and the school.
- **Packing Together:** Let your children pack a few boxes of their own belongings, as well as a special backpack to carry with them on moving day with a few prized possessions. Have youngsters decide on items to be discarded or donated to a local charity.
- **Address the Issue:** Help your children memorize their new address by having them address packing cartons with different colored markers.

### Get Excited About The New Neighborhood

- **Spend Some Quality Time:** Once you've arrived at your new home, don't let unpacking, decorating and rearranging overwhelm you. Be sure to set aside blocks of time to explore your new neighborhood with your children, and plan enjoyable activities for the entire family.
- **Meeting the Neighbors:** Introduce yourself to new neighbors prior to moving day, and invite the neighborhood children over to get acquainted once you've settled in.
- **Engaging Activities:** Provide your kids with a sense of continuity by enrolling them in familiar activities they enjoy, such as dance classes or little league.
- **Meet the Teacher:** Contact teachers and principals at prospective schools to inquire about testing, attendance, special programs and extracurricular activities to ensure a smooth transition.

### Stay In Touch

- **Keep in Touch:** Encourage your children to exchange addresses and telephone numbers with old friends.
- **Pen Pals:** Help your child write letters and call their old friends. Show them that whether your family is moving across town or across country, their connection with friends can still hold strong.
- **Make New Friends:** Your child may want to look at photos of people, places and things from your old neighborhood. Allow them to do so, but also encourage them to go outside and meet new friends.



### The Perfect Room

Include your child in decorating decisions for their new bedroom. The more comfortable they are in their new room, the more comfortable they will be with your new home.

Lisa LaPorta, design expert and co-host of HGTV's Designed to Sell, offers the following tips to create the perfect bedroom for your child:

- **Create a Concept:** Resist the urge to design a room around the latest hit movie or cartoon character, as children will quickly outgrow their fascination. Instead, work with your child to create a broad concept for the room, such as a jungle safari or underwater adventure, to help inspire their imagination. Remember that the shell of a room should be generic enough to adapt to the growing interests of your child.



- **Paint by Number:** Don't be afraid of color! A child's room is the perfect place for bright, bold colors, and your child will love to help you paint the space. However, beware of paint that is too dark for a small space.
- **Furnish in Style:** Incorporate a room's concept into the furnishings – not just the accessories. Be creative! Use baseball bat-shaped pillows to complement a ball imprint on your child's comforter or create a unique curtain rod using a golf club mounted above the windows.
- **Let There Be Light:** You can never have enough lighting. Fun and imaginative light fixtures can complement the child's room scheme, and multiple lighting sources are critical for any well-designed room.
- **The Perfect Bed:** From a whimsical circus tent to a magical princess bed, get creative with the design for your child's bed. Create a tent or canopy above the bed using lightweight fabrics and curtain rods or cable attached to the ceiling for support. A creative bed is a wonderful parent-child project to bring the room to life.
- **Self-Storage:** Organize in style with colorful storage bins. Keep bins cohesive by using multiple variations of one style.
- **Safety First:** As you finalize your child's new room, be sure electrical cords are tucked away, curtain strings are kept short, rugs are protected with non-skid padding and shelving units are strong and sturdy.