

HELPFUL HOUSEHOLD HINTS

Smart Shipping And Storage Suggestions



When making up a package for shipping or storing, remember to tape it shut—flaps taped down along the middle and on both ends over the corners—and reinforce the seams with a good-quality clear tape.

(NAPSA)—Whether you're sending gifts for the holidays, packing for a move or storing keepsakes, heeding a few hints on how to prepare things for shipping and storage can help your package stay safe and intact.

Packing Tips

- First, choose a strong, rigid carton made of high-quality corrugated cardboard, preferably double walled to ensure strength, durability and protection. Be sure it has enough room for the cushioning material around the contents. If you're reusing a box for shipping, cover up or black out any old labels and markings.

- Next, place plenty of cushioning around your items. Wrap each item separately within the carton with protective cushioning. Don't let any items touch the walls of the carton. Close and gently shake the box to see whether there is enough padding. If you hear items moving around as you shake the box, add more newspaper, packing foam or plastic material to secure the package.

- Before you ship or store your stuff away, make two lists of what's in the box. Put one inside

the box and then tape the other to the outside, so you know what's in which container and what not to overlook when you open one.

- Tape your box shut and reinforce the seams with quality tape. Don't use cord, string or twine, which can get caught in mail processing equipment. Fortunately, you can now get a tape that is almost three inches wide, so packages can be secured with just one strip of tape. Gorilla Shipping Tape also has a 3.4-mil construction, which makes it thicker, tougher and wider than other tapes. Plus, it's water and temperature resistant, so it stands up to the elements—whether you're shipping a package across the country or storing a box in a humid attic. It comes on an easy-to-grip, quiet dispenser, and the tape cuts easily for smooth dispensing.

- If traveling for a holiday or visit, ship packages and boxes ahead of time to save space in your luggage.

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