

# HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

## Stress-Free Moves For Do-It-Yourselfers

(NAPS)—If you're one of the many people planning to move yourself into a new home, consider packing along helpful expert tips.

The first thing to do is map out a timetable of things to do in the weeks prior to your move. This can help you make sure everything is done prior to moving day. Here are other tips from moving experts:

- Assess your moving needs and pick out the proper truck size. You may want to consult with a truck rental company to let them help you calculate how much truck space will be sufficient.

- Make sure the rental company you choose has 24-hour emergency road service along your route.

- Reserve your truck and moving supplies as soon as possible to assure availability. Pick up your supplies in advance.

- Try to lighten the load. The weeks prior to moving day can be an ideal opportunity to get rid of stuff you don't need. This may be the best time to have a garage sale.

- Pack belongings in strong cartons. These are typically available in a variety of sizes. For secure packing and sealing, stock up on heavy-duty packing tape, as well as bubble wrap and packing paper to protect your fragile belongings. This includes dishes, glassware, picture frames, pottery, etc. Penske Truck Rental, for example, sells a variety of packing materials.

- Mark the outside of each box to describe the contents and the



**One key to a successful move, experts say, is to plan ahead.**

room to which it should be taken when moved. This can help save a lot of guesswork and speed up the task of unpacking.

- When lifting, bend your knees and lift with your legs, not your back. Hand trucks with load-locking straps and stair climbers can be essential for moving heavy items.

- Pick up your rental truck the day or evening before moving day so you can familiarize yourself with the operation and handling of the vehicle. You can also get an early start on loading the next morning.

Do-it-yourself movers can pick up a free moving guide, listing the above and other tips, at any Penske Truck Rental location, or you can call 1-888-222-4600. You can also visit the Web site at [www.pensketruckrental.com](http://www.pensketruckrental.com). Penske offers 24-hour emergency road service every day of the year.