



**For Immediate Release – August 3, 2006**

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## **New York's Best Mover Offers 20 Tips for Sweet Summer Moves**

*Citysearch Winner Flatrate Moving Brings Insider Insight to the Moving Process*

NEW YORK, NY – Moving can be a hectic, stressful time -- especially for urban dwellers making the move at the height of the Summer crunch. The good news? The right preparations -- and the right mover -- can alleviate that stress, transforming the move into the celebratory new beginning it should be. To help people everywhere to make an easier Summer move, nationally acclaimed moving company **Flatrate Moving** ([www.Flatrate.com](http://www.Flatrate.com)) has released some superb tips that will help people to prepare for the best move of their lives -- and if they do it with Flatrate, they're assured of great service and a guaranteed, flat-rate price.

Flatrate's moving tips come from more than a decade of personalized, hands-on experience by company founders, supervisors, movers, and customer service personnel, and include the following pieces of wisdom:

- ✓ Don't wait or procrastinate: **Start packing 2 to 3 weeks before your move.** Starting 3 to 4 weeks before is even better.
- ✓ Start the packing process by packing **the things you use least, first** -- these might include such items as books, seasonal clothing, seasonal sports equipment, and knickknacks.
- ✓ When packing for a move in Summer, take extra care to **bag or separate items that may soften in the heat**, such as candles, soaps, or other items.
- ✓ **Use the move as an opportunity to organize**, getting rid of old or outdated items you don't use. After all, you don't want to move what you don't want to keep.

- ✓ Use strong cardboard boxes for moving, **choosing smaller boxes for heavier items**, and larger boxes for lighter items. Don't overpack, and use packing paper or material to pad the top, bottom and sides of each box.
- ✓ **Don't scrimp on Packing Tape (and always buy a little more than you think you'll need)**, to ensure that the bottom of each of your boxes is secure and able to withstand the weight of whatever you pack inside the box.
- ✓ **Pack your books flat**, alternating the bindings so that they will stack evenly.
- ✓ To stay neat even in the midst of packing chaos, try to concentrate on packing **one room at a time**. Stack boxes neatly against one chosen wall when done.
- ✓ Use your computer and printer to print out **large labels indicating the source room for each box** and then attach the label instantly upon packing each box. Label each box by room/item and a box number and keep that list handy and available for your reference. (You can also use a permanent marker to jot down more specific information on what's in that particular box -- not only will it save you move time, but it will also allow you to specify where you want that box to go in your new place, saving you valuable unpacking time as well.)
- ✓ **Make sure to pack alarm clocks, medication, and any other items** that you may need access to in a separate box or bag and make sure to mark that bag clearly. Do the same for important valuables and items such as documents, jewelry, and currency, or use registered mail. It's also a good idea to make a copy of all important documents such as wills, contracts, and passports.
- ✓ **Always wrap nuts and bolts in a plastic bag** and then clearly label the bag.
- ✓ **Empty dressers completely** -- open dresser drawers overflowing with clothing and other items are a nightmare for movers. It's best to pack them -- for the sake of the contents, as well as the furniture itself (**little-known fact**: furniture tends to break more easily if it's not emptied first).
- ✓ **Beware of the hidden costs that may occur from less scrupulous movers** -- Instead, in order to avoid additional charges on the day of the move, make sure you (1) provide movers with a copy of your inventory list before getting your quote, and (2) get a guaranteed price that is all-inclusive in writing, before the move.
- ✓ A good mover should quilt and secure your **furniture and large items for you**. They should also help to pack and unpack electronics such as Computers, TVs, DVD, Microwaves, Stereo equipment, lamps, etc. Wardrobe boxes should be provided on the day of your move by movers, as well, but go ahead and ask for them beforehand, just to be on the safe side.
- ✓ One lesser-known item: **Most movers will not be able to reassemble Baby Cribs**, for important safety reasons. Therefore, make sure to have a knowledgeable person ready to reassemble your crib in your new home upon completion of the move.

- ✓ **Create and keep a complete inventory list** of everything that needs to be moved. Jot down and keep record of the serial numbers on all of your electronic equipment.
- ✓ On **dishware and glasses, wrap each piece individually**. Bundle flatware in groups of three and wrap the bundle. Don't place one layer of dishware directly on top another without separating with packing paper. Newspaper is not recommended, as it may leave ink stains on your items, although it can be useful as extra padding for items that are already protected. Place less expensive glasses and cups in groups of three, wrapping each bundle.
- ✓ **Do not pack flammables** such as aerosol cans, paints, or gasoline. Carefully dispose gasoline and oil from your lawnmower and other machinery to avoid spontaneous combustion. Don't pack perishables such as frozen foods, produce, or plants. Instead, take these items to your new place separately beforehand, a day or two before moving.
- ✓ **Don't place soaps, sprays, polishes, and medicine in the same box as food**. Never pack kitchenware or other heavy items in the same box as dishware.
- ✓ **Take care of your moving team**. It's a nice gesture, especially in the brutal Summer heat, to keep chilled water or soda available for your movers, so that they don't dehydrate on a hot day. A little extra kindness goes a long way, and gestures like this will be much appreciated by your movers. And if you're delighted with your move? Use the standard scales and percentages for gratuities to tip your movers personally at the end of the moving day.

### About Flatrate Moving

Flatrate Moving is a nationally acclaimed moving service that was recently voted a dual award as "Best Mover 2006" by NYC Citysearch users, as well as its editors and reporters. With its flagship location in New York City, Flatrate also brings its superb and hassle-free, all-inclusive flat-rate moving services to the New Jersey, Washington D.C., Miami, and Los Angeles areas. The company is able to meet the needs of any move, from residential, to commercial, and from local to cross-country or even overseas moves.

Committed to integrity, and to earning the goodwill of its customers, Flatrate's excellence and honesty within the moving industry has made the company the mover of choice in NYC today. The company is also committed to giving back to the community on a local and international level, as well.

For more information on Flatrate Moving, its services or five superb locations nationwide, please visit [www.Flatrate.com](http://www.Flatrate.com) or [www.Flatratemoving.com](http://www.Flatratemoving.com).

Meanwhile, for more information, or for more valuable tips, or for interviews with **Flatrate** founders please contact **Angela Mitchell** at **(904) 982-8043** or [Paramitch@aol.com](mailto:Paramitch@aol.com).

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## Logos and Images August 3, 2006

Please contact Angela Mitchell at (904) 982-8043 or [Paramitch@aol.com](mailto:Paramitch@aol.com) to receive individual, high-resolution copies of these files.



*Flatrate Movers knows moving – and most recently released a list of valuable moving tips for people everywhere!*