



Moving into college is exciting, chaotic, sweaty, and a little overwhelming!

No matter how you are arriving, this guide helps you stay cool, dodge rookie mistakes, and start the year strong—with snacks and a screwdriver.



Pre-work: Stuff to do Before You Get There

You don't want to be that person at check-in.

- Double-check your move-in time slot and location
- Bring any required forms or student ID
- Know what's provided in your dorm (bed size, furniture, etc.)
- Look for info on elevators, carts, parking passes, and where families can help unload

Screenshot your check-in email in case Wi-Fi fail.





Pace Yourself: Unpack in Phases, Not Panic Mode

You don't need to finish everything in the first hour.

- Start with essentials: bedding, toiletries, power strip, fan
- Then move to organization: drawers, closet, under-bed storage
- Last: decorations and vibes
- Pack a 24-hour bag—and swipe to the end for a quick checklist.

Make your bed first. It instantly makes the room feel calmer—and gives you somewhere to collapse later.





Tools & Tricks That Save the Day

Some MVPs for smooth moving:

- Scissors or box cutter
- Trash bags (for trash and packing materials)
- Command hooks/strips for decor
- Disinfecting wipes (wipe down surfaces before loading them up!)
- Surge protector / extension cord
- Reusable water bottle & snacks (because HANGRY is real)

Label your boxes by category and room side if you have a roommate. No one wants to open every bin looking for their shampoo.



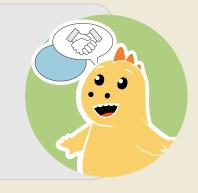


Meet People- Even If You're Introverted

It's weird at first. That's normal. Say hey anyway.

- Introduce yourself to your roommate
- Wave or say hi to neighbors
- Smile at the RA—they're your go-to for everything
- Open your door while unpacking. It makes it easier for others to say hi.

Hey, I'm [Name]—want help with anything?" goes a long way.





Goodnight, But First...

You'll thank yourself later for getting this done now.

- Plug in and connect your devices to Wi-Fi
- Make sure your phone is charging
- Fill out your room condition checklist so you don't get charged later
- Set an alarm for the next day—just in case your sleep schedule's off

If your room feels weird, move things around. You're allowed to make it yours.





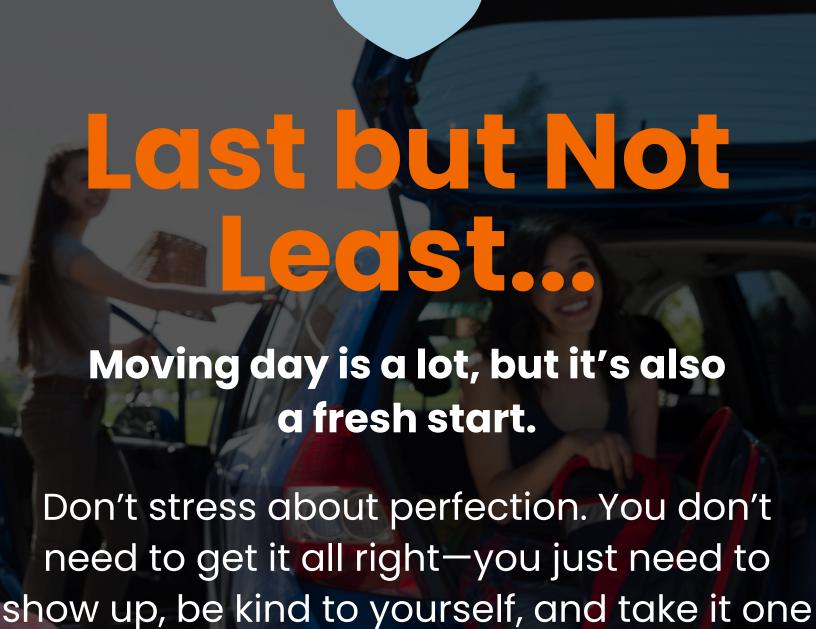
Your First 24-Hour Essentials Kit

Don't dig through 10 boxes. Keep this in a backpack or easy-access bin:

- Bedding + pillow
- Phone charger
- Toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant
- Shower caddy + towel
- Medications, glasses/contacts
- Pajamas & change of clothes
- Reusable water bottle
- Snacks (granola bars, trail mix, candy no shame)

Pack this like you're staying overnight in a hotel... where you also have to assemble furniture.





Also: everyone forgets something.
That's why Target exists.

box (or drawer) at a time.

Want more tips like this to make moving easier?

We've got checklists, tools, and fresh tips dropping daily to help you unpack, settle in, and feel at home faster.

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