

Tips for Moving Your Computer or Other Electronics



Here's the information you need to make sure your computer or other sensitive electronic equipment doesn't arrive at your new home in bytes and pieces.

News flash: Today's computers don't require the special care that computers in the past required. Some people may remember the "park" your hard drive command. Luckily, today you don't have to worry about it. Still, when you prepare for your move, you should make backup copies of all your important data just in case. It's much better to be safe than sorry. Identify all your original software and other program disks and keep in a secure container.

How to back up? In the old days, you copied your data on to floppy disks, zip drives – today even CD's are passé. With today's mega capacity hard drives filled with digital photos, music and video, your best bet for backing up your data quickly and reliably is to use an external hard drive, or if you choose the cloud. Or if you have a DVD burner, backing up onto DVD is somewhat reasonable but more time consuming. Keep in mind, that if you have lots of data, it could take days or weeks to upload all your stuff.

After you back up your data, unplug any cables and wires from the back of the computer. If you're not sure how to re-connect them, take the time and label the cords with a marker and masking tape. Cords and cables should be treated with care. You generally want to coil the wires to avoid bending them. Bag the cables to ensure that you can find everything when you unpack them.

Follow similar procedures for packing your home audio/visual systems. The sheer number of cords and wires can be daunting, but if you carefully unplug and label, then coil each wire, you should be able to reassemble the system without a degree in rocket science.

When it comes to packing, you should always try to use the original box when possible. If you're like most people, however, your original box is long gone. Pacific Transfer can provide you with the proper packing materials and boxes. Don't take chances with a less sturdy container.

Your computer, printers and other home electronic components can be treated similarly when packing. Use a sturdy box with padding on the bottom, wrap padding around your equipment and place in the box – pad the top and seal and label the box. Your CRT monitor should be treated with the same care as a TV. Use heavy padding in a sturdy box to protect the screen. LCD monitors require extra care because the screens are soft and can be easily damaged. Use lots of heavy padding to cover the screen and be careful that any other items in that same box can't damage the screen.

