

The Top Three Mistakes Mistakes People Make When Downsizing!!!



Dr. Marlena E. Uhrik

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1. **Lack of planning**--- Not enough planning can cause you more stress, more time, and more money. Get yourself organized from the get-go!

As you know, there is a myriad of things to think about and decisions to make while getting ready to downsize. Everything from finding movers, boxes---and of course, tape, to notifying the utility companies of your moving date--- the list goes on. Start NOW!!!

Start by planning a room-by-room packing calendar. This will help you plan your activities and see your progress along the way. I have provided an Amazing-Staging Calendar (Amazing-Staging.com/bookresources) along with a sample project.

This Calendar is designed to help disassemble a big huge task into smaller, more manageable pieces. I also like to recommend keeping your calendar and other lists in a binder or folder so that everything is in one place.

That way you are not scrambling to find “that list” you started and put “someplace.” (I know what that is like. That use to be me! I learned the hard way that’s why I am passing this on to you! Lol)

2. Lack of systems and organization---Organize everything from decluttering your old place to labeling where things are going in the new place.

One of the biggest time-consuming things is going through your personal belongings and making decisions about what to keep, what to donate, and what to toss. It can be hard to realize that all those things you have had all this time, are not going to be able to go with you. It's like saying good bye to an old friend---easy to say, hard to do.

Be sure to label your boxes so you know which rooms they go into. Don't make the mistake I made years ago when I was moving and used Post-it notes to put on the boxes.

I had carefully stored those labelled boxes out in the garage only to find the Post-its notes stuck to my dog's tail!!!

She had brushed up along side of the boxes and had inadvertently rubbed them off and was walking with orange Post-its! It was a sight to see. Sometimes you just have to laugh at stuff that happens!

3. Lack of foresight---It's easy to be so focused on getting things handled in the old place, you forget to set up the essentials in the new place. Plan ahead to determine what and where your mission critical things will go.

Determine things ahead of time such as where will you set up your computer/ "command center." Make sure you have a handle on where all your credit cards are including cash/ checkbook (if you still use one) and other important papers you will be taking with you.

Establish ahead of time where your bed/bedding will go so that on moving day these things can be one of the first things to be set up before the movers leave you in a sea of boxes!

Pack essentials in an overnight bag so that at the end of the day you can find your toothbrush/toothpaste, any medications, and other everyday essentials.

These and a ton of other great ideas can be found in my book, ***The Secret Sauce of Downsizing***. Go to www.Amazing-Staging.com and grab other FREEBIES!!!