

# Too Much Stuff? Store It At My Place!!!

## 10 Tips On How People Should Pack And Prepare Their Kitchen Stuff For Self-Storage.

1. **Declutter and Sort:** Before packing, be ruthless! Get rid of expired food (only food in rodent-proof containers can be stored at our place), unused appliances, and chipped dishes. Donate or sell what you don't need. This saves space and money on storage costs.
2. **Cleanliness is Key:** Give everything a good scrub. Food residue attracts pests and can cause unpleasant odours in storage. Wipe down appliances, clean dishes, and vacuum out canisters.
3. **Box it Up Wisely:** Use sturdy boxes and invest in packing materials like packing paper, bubble wrap, and plastic storage bins. Label boxes clearly with contents and mark "fragile" for delicate items. We have Fragile stickers at the office that we give away for free.
4. **Plate Up for Protection:** Stand plates vertically on edge, cushioned with packing paper or towels between each plate to prevent them from clinking and breaking.
5. **Think Outside the Box:** Repurpose everyday items for packing. Use socks to cushion glasses, towels to wrap pots and pans, and egg cartons to store small utensils.
6. **Power Down Appliance Paradise:** Unplug appliances, clean any compartments, and secure cords with tape to avoid tangles. Leave appliance doors slightly ajar to prevent mildew.
7. **Packing Like a Tetris Master:** Utilize space efficiently. Pack heavier items in smaller boxes and lighter items in larger boxes. Fill any gaps with packing air bags or towels to prevent items from shifting during transport.
8. **Ventilation is King:** If storing long-term, make sure the storage lockup is well ventilated to prevent extreme temperatures from damaging your belongings, especially things like wood or delicate cookware. The downside to good ventilation is small amounts of dust. The easy, effective, and inexpensive dust control method

to control dust is to cover your stuff as it is going into storage with an old bed sheet.

9. **Essentials at the Ready:** Pack a separate box with basic kitchen supplies like dish soap, a roll of paper towels, a can opener, and a few plates and utensils. This will be handy when you first access your stored items.
10. **Inventory for Easy Retrieval:** Create a detailed list of everything you're storing. This will save you time and frustration when you need to find something specific later.

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