

The Big Yellow Guide to Packing and Stacking

A print out and keep guide to packing up your things and making the most of your space

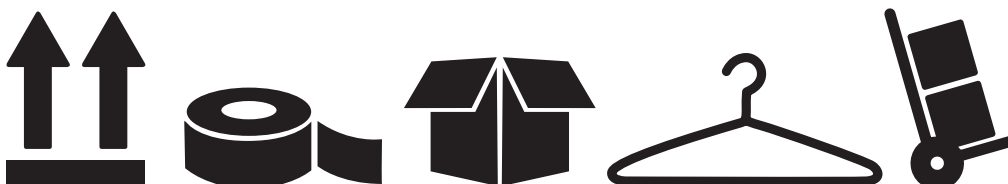


Getting your things ready for transport and storage.

Whether you're storing items for a few days or a number of years, pack with care:

- Good quality storage boxes and packing materials offer better protection from damage.
- Try to get each box as full as possible. Partially full boxes are more likely to tip or collapse.
- To make your boxes easier to lift, choose smaller boxes for heavy items like books and plates, and larger boxes for lighter items such as bedding and curtains.
- Make your things easier to find later by labelling or numbering your boxes with a waterproof marker.
- Don't forget to write 'THIS WAY UP' and 'FRAGILE' on boxes containing breakables.
- Protect fragile goods with bubble wrap or acid free tissue paper. Wrap delicate items with the bubbles facing inwards for added protection. Bubble wrap and tissue paper are available to buy online or in-store at Big Yellow.
- Storing clothing for a long time? Wardrobe boxes allow you to hang your clothes in storage, keeping their shape and giving them room to breathe. We sell them in-store and on our website.
- We strongly advise against using bin bags. They are prone to ripping, get easily squashed and lack ventilation – which can cause mildew to build up on fabrics.
- Consider using a vacuum storage system that actually sucks air out of specially designed bags – to help you fit more clothes into your space.
- Can anything be broken down into smaller parts? For example, bed frames can usually be disassembled, making them easier to store.
- Take care to clean any garden equipment before you store it.
- Remember to protect table legs with bubble wrap, and protect varnished furniture against scratches by using a layer of shrink wrap, corrugated cardboard or tissue paper.
- Protect pictures and mirrors with bubble wrap and clearly mark them 'FRAGILE'. Large ones should be stacked on their end.
- Ensure refrigerators or freezers are fully defrosted and cleaned before storing and use shrink wrap to keep fridge and freezer doors closed in transit.

You can buy a wide range of Big Yellow boxes and specialised packing materials online and in-store.



Making the most of your space.

When you get to Big Yellow, it's important to place items in your space in a safe and orderly way:

- If you know which things you'll need to access most often, set them aside to keep near the front, close to the door.
- Place heavy or bulky items in the room first to provide a good stacking base, and be sure to stack your boxes right up to the ceiling.
- Aim to stack similar sized boxes together. This will help maximise your space.
- Bring a step stool, so you can reach boxes at the top.
- To keep track of what you've stored and where, create a floor plan of your space as you go and stick it on the wall (then keep it in a safe place at home). You can also use our Box Archiver tool on the Big Yellow Space Kit iPhone App to keep a note of exactly what's stored in each box.
- If space allows, leave a walkway so you can access everything.
- Stack any chairs seat-to-seat, using some cloth or paper between each to separate them.
- Save floor space by storing soft furnished sofas on their ends.
- Use any extra space you can. Why not fill an empty fridge with books and CDs, or an empty wardrobe with light boxes?
- Don't place heavy items on sofas or mattresses.
- To aid ventilation, avoid stacking or leaning furniture right up against outside walls – leave at least an inch. Also, ensure refrigerator and freezer doors are left open.
- Always place a protective cover over soft furnishings. In fact, all larger items should be protected with dustsheets – which are available to buy on our website or in-store.

