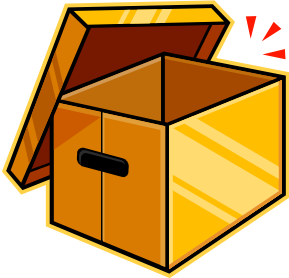


6 steps for a smooth move-in:

Step 1: Get Organized

Make sure to box up and condense everything you are bringing. This will make the move-in process easier and quicker for you and your family and friends, as well as the university members helping you out. Make sure to also have all your paperwork completed for offices such as Residence Life and Housing, Registrar's, Business Office, etc. before you come to campus. The more organized you are the easier unpacking will be too, because we all know that moving is not the easiest thing to do.



Step 2: Wake up early

Why don't you wake up early? The early bird does get the worm, and the advantage! If you get to school early you can beat the rush to unload your things. You will also get to the check-in table before the lines start forming (but make sure not to get there before it even opens!)



Step 3: Strategize and know the process

Since you woke up early and have some time, walk up and find your room before you haul all your stuff into the building. This way if your room is tough to find you won't wear yourself out carrying your 32-inch TV and lava lamp collection up and down 3 flights of stairs. Also, if you have a car you will know where the closest place to park is before you dump your gear on the sidewalk.



Step 4: Relax

Once you get everything into your room, chill for a second. You're already early, so kick back and take a look around. Since your roommate probably isn't there yet, you get to take the best side of the room (the best closet space, the best window view, or whatever is important to you).

Step 5: First things first

Don't just dive into the first box you see and start unpacking, do the important stuff first. Make your bed, put your clothes in the closet and drawers, and then plug in your laptop, phone, iPod, blackberry, whatever needs to get charged. It's good to have your phone fully charged and handy for getting those numbers to meet some new friends! Word to the wise: if you buy the standard college bedding set and new linens wash them before you use them! Trust us, waking up dyed green isn't the best thing. It could be a good conversation starter, but may be slightly embarrassing.



Step 6: Peace out parents ... Hello College!

It's so hard to say goodbye to yesterday. Great song, but Boyz II Men probably weren't talking about their first day at college. Point is, it's time to get rid of the parents, and start living the good life. At this point you can set up the rest of the room the way you want it, then head outside. I repeat, go outside! Do not start up AIM and talk to your high school friends. It's time to start meeting people. Help someone on your hall move in or just hit the green and strike up a conversation.