



SOUTH BEACH
MINI STORAGE

4844 South Coast Highway South Beach, Oregon

Rent a
Storage Unit

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541-867-3636

Pro Tip Series

Pack Like the Professionals Do: 7 Tips from South Beach Mini Storage

To make the most efficient use of your public storage space, you'll want to pack properly. But more importantly, when your goods are properly packed, they are much less likely to be damaged when you move them. Follow along with us as we share seven tips with you that will make your mini storage experience the best it can be.

Tip #1: Plan Ahead



Do you know how large a secure storage unit you will need? Grab a notebook and measuring tape to record the dimensions of the larger goods you will be moving. Make allowances for those items that can or cannot be stacked.

The experts at South Beach Mini Storage are happy to share their years of experience with you.

And, you'd be surprised how often people forget the most basic packing supplies: boxes, tape, packing paper and other cushioning materials, and markers. Be sure to pick up specialty packing for valuable and odd-shaped items.

Tip #2: Use the same size boxes and pack completely



Boxes stack better when they are the same size, and space within the mini storage unit is used more efficiently. Try to get a number of different sized boxes when you pick up packing supplies. And, no matter how attractive free boxes from your friend at the supermarket might be, they are often dirty and damaged. Consider purchasing new packing boxes from your public storage professional.

When you pack the boxes, make sure they are packed full. Boxes that are only partially packed can collapse, and boxes that are over packed do not stack well and can fall over. Use newsprint, packing paper, or bubble pack to fill in partially packed boxes.

Tip #3: Use dressers and appliances to store items



There is valuable space inside dressers, armoires, and larger appliances — use it to make the most efficient use of your mini storage space. Many smaller and lighter items can be stored this way and leave your boxes for other items.

Consider packing these items separately when actually moving them, then placing them into the larger goods once at the public storage facility.

That way the larger items aren't any heavier to move than necessary, yet can provide extra space when storing the goods.

If you are using a refrigerator, washer, or dryer for this type of storage, make sure the door is blocked open to prevent the formation of mildew.

Tip #4: Pack heavier items into small boxes, limit weight



Heavier items, and items that pack very densely, should be put into smaller boxes. Books, tools, records, and heavier collectables are better protected, and much more easily moved, when maximum box weight is limited to 30 lbs.

Also make sure heavier boxes are placed lower on a stack and stacked with other boxes of the same size.

Consider placing heavier items that you will not be retrieving often toward the back of the mini storage unit.

Tip #5: Label all boxes clearly, organize well



Make sure you label each box, on all sides. Clearly note which boxes contain fragile goods. Keep a record in your home or office to refer to when planning to remove items from your mini storage unit.

If possible, group together boxes from each room in the house.

Leave some space between stacks of boxes to make access to items easier. It also helps promote air circulation, which will limit the formation of mildew.

Tip #6: Make sure appliances are clean and dry



Take the time to clean and dry appliances before moving them, especially if you will be using them to store other goods (see tip #3, previous).

Secure moving parts in place with a wedge or wrap in paper for protection. For certain appliances and shop tools, consult the Owner's Manual to determine if there are specific manufacturer's instructions on how to secure the item for moving.

Tape all doors closed prior to moving the items, but be sure you wedge them open before placing them into the public storage unit. Be careful to use tape that will not damage the finish or leave an undesirable residue.

Tip #7: Packing dishes and glasses takes lots of paper

Keep plenty of extra packing paper on hand for dishes and glasses. Start each box with



a layer of packing paper on the bottom, then individually wrap each piece in paper. Crumple more paper to place between each item. Then complete the packing with an extra layer of packing paper on top.

Dishes pack best on their edges, although that can make for very heavy cartons. Bear in mind the maximum weight suggestion we made in tip #4.

If you will be keeping particularly valuable or especially delicate plates or glasses in your public storage unit, consider investing in specialized storage containers to protect them.

We've offered our professional packing tips to help you get the most from your secure storage unit. If you have any questions, we are there to answer them, call and ask a member of the South Beach Mini Storage staff.