

Pro Tip Series

Be a Stacking Pro: Get the Most from Your Mini Storage Unit

How you stack goods in your secure storage space will help determine both how your stuff fares in storage and how efficiently the space you pay for is used. If you do it right, it will also make removal of your goods easier.

Generally you will only want to stack items that are in sturdy cartons or other containers designed for storage. Trying to stack unusual or odd-shaped items often leads to damaged goods. There are a few exceptions, such as stacking items on top of appliances like refrigerators, washers, and dryers.

Build a Strong Base First

If properly packed, the larger boxes will contain heavier items. You should use these to form a base across the back wall of the mini storage unit.

- Start at the left and using the back wall as support for the back of each box. Make a complete row before beginning another one.
- Beware of large boxes that have only been partially packed. If necessary, fill them with newsprint or other packing material.
- Do not place fragile items on the base, even if they're in a larger box

Gradually build up to smaller boxes, but remember that a strong foundation is necessary to make the stacks stable. You can always place smaller boxes together in a shorter stack, closer to the public storage unit entrance.



Rent a Storage Unit

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Leave Some Space

Boxes should be closely stacked for stability, but if they're too tightly arranged, there won't be enough room for air to circulate. In climates with more humidity, and more for some goods than others, mildew growth can occur if stacks are too tight.

Planning Ahead For Access

The last items you place into the mini storage unit should be those things you expect to need more frequent access to. And, you sure don't want to find that out after the unit is full and the box is buried. In fact, leaving some room for an aisle can greatly simplify access if you can spare the room.

Remember, if you have to unpack and repack your unit frequently, renting a larger storage unit and reorganizing might actually save you public storage dollars in the end.

Secure Storage of Fragile Items

Properly packed fragile goods can be placed atop stacks of cartons and boxes. But be sure you have a stable base to prevent damage. Consider storing especially fragile and valuable items on top of very short stacks. Another place to protect them from damage is inside appliances and furniture that will be stored. They still need careful packing, but you can store them very safely this



way.

We're Here to Help

Whether you're storing your stuff for a long time, or only a few months, these simple tips for stacking goods in your public storage unit will help you keep everything safe and use your space most efficiently.

If you have any questions on how to organize your local storage unit, our on-site manager is there to provide expert advice. For more than twenty years, South Beach Mini Storage has been the premier full-service storage facility serving Newport and greater Lincoln County, Oregon. Call us to rent a unit today.