

Moving Your Tech Tools

AT&T offers tips for loading, packing and unpacking communications and entertainment gear

Managing the millions of details involved with a move can be a headache, but mastering some of the basics can help alleviate stress. As the busiest moving months of the year approach and many families gear up to swap one residence for another, AT&T offers the following tips for packing and transporting sensitive equipment like computers, modems, keyboards, cords and other tech tools for communications and entertainment at home.

Save time moving with online resources

- **Plan your move online** –AT&T Mover's One Source can help you streamline the transfer of everything from communications and entertainment services, to energy, water, and other services. AT&T can connect you with moving vans, cleaning services, change of address forms and much more. (Visit att.com/move for more details on how to make this your easiest move ever.)

Loading your gear

- **Color code your cables** – Some computer and electronics parts may already be color coded (like the mouse and the keyboard, or video connectors), but others could end up a mystery without some organization. Use colored permanent markers or colored stickers to mark the cords and what they attach to. For example, put an orange dot on your printer, with corresponding orange dots on the connecting power and computer cords.
- **Pack cords and small parts in see-through bags or plastic shoeboxes** – Keep all the cords and accessories together for specific parts of your gear. Make one for computer components, one for stereo cords and another for video cables. It'll make it easier to connect everything when you arrive.
- **Protect the fragile** – Original boxes are best for electronic gear, but if they are not available, invest in boxes and bubble wrap to protect your most vulnerable components, especially computer screens, which can be easily broken or scratched if they're not covered or wrapped properly.
- **Check on what should not go with you** – Call AT&T to find out what service equipment is yours to keep and what equipment you need to return before you move. (You're free to keep AT&T Yahoo! High Speed Internet and Home Networking Equipment, which will work in your new place if those AT&T services are available.)
- **Pack your crucial computer and electronics gear last** – On the road, you may want to take your computer into your hotel room to keep it safe, especially if it's visible in your vehicle. Once you arrive at your new destination, your computer and TV will be one of the first things you'll want to set up. Packing them last lets you unload them first.

Stay connected

- **Make plans for e-mail** - Will you be able to keep your e-mail address or will you have to get a new one? AT&T can help you move your e-mail account or set up a new one if necessary. If you cannot keep your current account, make sure you export and save your address book from online e-mail. Find out how long your current e-mail address will be available, so you can use services like True Switch to make the transition easier.
- **Take advantage of dial-up Internet** - If you're keeping the same e-mail address, find out if you'll have dial-up Internet access. (AT&T Yahoo! High Speed Internet comes with free nationwide dial-up Internet access.) Find the local dial-up numbers (AT&T users call 1-877-722-3755) for the cities you'll be visiting and use those numbers to access the Internet on the way.

- **Make plans for your cell phone** – Call Cingular Wireless (now AT&T Wireless) to transition your wireless account seamlessly. An AT&T Wireless representative can help you compare plans to ensure that you'll have continued coverage along your moving route and when you reach your final destination and set up a new calling plan, if necessary, for your new city.
- **Use hot spots** – If you have a laptop, take advantage of Wi-Fi hot spots for Internet access. Many rest stops, coffee shops, truck stops and hotels now have Wi-Fi connectivity. Consider getting a Wi-Fi subscription that will work until you get permanent Internet access back up and running. (Unlimited Internet access is available starting at just \$1.99/ month for AT&T Yahoo! High Speed Internet subscribers.)

Once you arrive

- **Compare options for TV, phone and Internet services** – Contact AT&T for the most comprehensive communications and entertainment solutions at a great price. AT&T can help you bundle your services together including Internet, home phone, digital TV and wireless phone services – all on one bill.
- **If you have space, keep the boxes for your gear** – Original boxes are best, but other boxes you bought for transporting your most important electronics can be worth hanging on to.
- **Send out change of address notifications** – Consider online options including sending your new address by e-mail to your e-mail address list. Visit att.com/move for free e-cards.