



# Moving With Plants



Moving plants can be delicate, but with proper care, you can ensure they survive the transition to your new home. Here are 20 tips and tricks for moving plants.

- 1. Research Regulations:** Check regulations regarding transporting plants across state or international borders to ensure compliance with any restrictions. Also make sure you have the proper paperwork to move your plants.
- 2. Prepare in Advance:** Start preparing your plants for the move several weeks beforehand by pruning them, removing dead leaves, and repotting if necessary. You need them as healthy as possible before moving.
- 3. Choose the Right Time:** Try to schedule the move during a mild season when temperatures are moderate and plants are less likely to experience stress. Trucks and cars amplify the temperature outside and can quickly bake or freeze plants.
- 4. Check for Pests:** Inspect plants for pests or diseases before moving them to prevent spreading infestations to your new home or other plants.
- 5. Secure Pots and Soil:** Secure pots and soil to prevent them from shifting or spilling during transport. Use ties or stakes to keep plants upright if necessary. Use a blanket under pots to absorb bumps in the road so the pots don't break.
- 6. Water Plants Properly:** Water plants thoroughly a few days before the move to ensure they're hydrated but not waterlogged on moving day.
- 7. Wrap Delicate Foliage:** Wrap delicate foliage in tissue paper or newspaper to protect it from damage during transport. Secure with gentle ties or rubber bands.
- 8. Use Proper Containers:** Use sturdy, well-ventilated containers for transporting plants, such as cardboard boxes with air holes or plastic bins with lids that also have holes in them.
- 9. Avoid Direct Sunlight:** Keep plants out of direct sunlight during transport to prevent sunburn and heat stress. Cover them with a light sheet or cloth if necessary.
- 10. Protect Roots:** Protect plant roots by wrapping them in damp paper towels or burlap to keep them moist and prevent drying out when they have above ground exposed roots.
- 11. Label Boxes:** Label boxes containing plants clearly and indicate which end is up to prevent tipping or damage during transport. Also make sure they are the last loaded so they can be the first off.
- 12. Secure Transportation:** Secure plants in the vehicle to prevent shifting or tipping during transport. Use seat belts, bungee cords, or other restraints as needed. Often putting the pot in a box and packing boxes around that box will keep things the safest.



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By following these tips and tricks, you can help ensure your plants survive the move and thrive in their new home.

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**13. Provide Ventilation:** Ensure plants have adequate ventilation during transport to prevent overheating or suffocation. Avoid sealing containers completely and supply large holes for adequate air movement and plant breathing.

**14. Limit Time in Transit:** Minimize the time plants spend in transit by planning efficient routes and scheduling rest stops as needed. Having them accessible allows you to care for them as needed along your route.

**15. Acclimate Plants Gradually:** Once you arrive at your new home, acclimate plants gradually to their new environment by placing them in a shaded area for a few days before exposing them to direct sunlight especially if the climates vary much in temperature, humidity, days of sunlight, and altitude.

**18. Water and Fertilize:** Water plants thoroughly after the move to help them recover from any stress and encourage new growth. Avoid fertilizing until plants have had a chance to settle in.

**19. Monitor for Signs of Stress:** Keep an eye on plants for signs of stress, such as wilting, yellowing leaves, or pest infestations, and take appropriate action to address any issues.

**20. Research Local Conditions:** Research local climate and growing conditions in your new area to ensure you're providing the right care for your plants in their new environment.

