



PACKING LIST TO GET YOU STARTED

Practical Items:

This would be anything you need or would use in your daily life. Also, items that you already have and would be unnecessary to buy again once in Canada. These items include:

- Converter/Adapter plugs - your country might have a completely different type of plug compared to Canada. The adapters could be helpful for when you first arrive at your new home and want to charge items such as your laptop or cellphone. It's also great to have for travelling purposes.
- Personal electronics such as tablets, cameras and video games - this seems unnecessary to buy in Canada if you already have these items. They are worth packing in, you can just change the plug or use an adapter.
- Small appliances - this could be another way to save money. For example, packing your vacuum cleaner (if not bulky) could save you more money than buying a new one. Of course, this doesn't work with every item as some tend to be heavier and can take up a lot of weight.
- Kitchenware - packing all of your pots and pans might not be ideal, but bringing along some cutlery, a few pots (especially the good ones) can save you money and time. You don't want to be buying take-out for your first week because of a lack of kitchenware.
- Pet food - if you are travelling with a pet it would be a great idea to pack at least 5 days' worth of food. This will give time while you settle down in the first few days as you won't have to rush to the store.
- Medication - if you take prescription medication, be sure to bring those along. Canada allows a 90-day supply. Be sure that it's in its original container with your doctor's prescription printed on the container. You will need to declare all medicine.
- Clothing and shoes - this is where a lot of the luggage weight will come from. Be careful to not pack unnecessary items such as an item of clothing you haven't worn in the past year. Instead, you can sell or give them away.

Legal Items:

Legal documents are by far the most important to pack. You won't get very far without them, so make sure they are either on your person when travelling or safely locked in your carry-on bag. Legal items include:

- Your passport - you can't go anywhere without it and in the stress of moving it can often be left behind.
- Birth certificates - this is always good to have with you and you'll need it when applying for medical insurance.
- Marriage license - another important document to have when moving to another country.

- Insurance policies - if you haven't cancelled your insurance or you have insurance cover for other family members in your home country, it would be a good idea to have these with you.
- Wills - this should always go where ever you do as it's long-term.
- House sale documents/rental check out - this is good to have especially if you are going to rent your home.
- Person to contact in case of emergency - you never know what may happen, major or minor so it's always good to have an emergency contact on your person.
- Driver's license and international license - if you're renting a car immediately after landing in Canada, this is very important.
- Cash (Canadian dollars) - it's always good to carry cash just in case your credit or debit cards haven't been activated yet internationally or if the store doesn't accept cards. You won't need to carry much and having cash won't be a waste either, because it can be used at any time.

Sentimental Items:

- Photo albums - these can't be replaced and even though you'll be making new memories in Canada, it's always nice to be able to look back at the older ones.
- Jewelry - it would make sense to bring this along with you, especially if it holds sentimental value.
- Home videos - these are irreplaceable and a beautiful thing to take along on the big move.
- Collections e.g. books or vinyl - if you are a collector, you may want to bring your collection along. Yes, it may create extra weight but it will also make your new place feel like home.
- Other items - this could be a special mug that someone has given you. Being in a new country can be a little tough at times, so having these items may bring you comfort.

Carryon Bag:

This is where the most important documents will be because you will need them close to you at all times. Certain valuables or fragile items can and should also be placed into your carry-on bag.

- Passport
- Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) if needed
- Proof of insurance (medical + luggage + civil liability)
- Valid driver's license and international license
- Plane tickets (if you have a round trip)
- Health booklet (or vaccination booklet)
- Cash (Canadian dollars)
- Credit/debit card
- Person to contact in case of emergency (contact info)
- Camera / Video camera
- Mobile phone
- Headphones/A book