

Gear up for college

All the planning has paid off, the decisions are made and you're ready to go to college. So now comes the packing. Although you may be living in a dorm — which is often required of freshman — this summarized packing list should work for most college moves.

Remember, you'll need necessities to get by daily without leaning on mom or dad, raiding their cupboards and using their washer and dryer.

So here is a list of useful things to remember to bring with you on your transition into the real world:

Keep it clean

Stay on top of hygiene with clean clothes, tidy room and the tools to help make it happen. Plus, you'll need to invest in shower essentials. This isn't your mom's tub—you never know what a shared college shower room may hide!

- ⚡ Laundry basket
- ⚡ Laundry detergent & fabric softener
- ⚡ Roll of quarters
- ⚡ A shower caddy
- ⚡ Flip-flops for the shower
- ⚡ Towels
- ⚡ Disinfectant spray
- ⚡ Cleaning wipes

CLEANING ITEMS:

What's for dinner?

Sure, you'll have a meal plan, but there may be days and nights when you just feel like preparing something quick and easy in your dorm or suite. Most spaces these days have a microwave you can use, which makes preparing favorites like macaroni and cheese a cinch! Don't forget these dining necessities:

- ⚡ Large plastic bowl
- ⚡ Box of microwave popcorn
- ⚡ Reusable water bottle
- ⚡ Gift certificate to the local grocery store
- ⚡ Reusable coffee-mug

DINING ITEMS:

Keep in touch

You can pack envelopes and stamps, but snail mail is so passé. Be ready to Skype, Facebook and even call home regularly. You're



on your own, but it's normal to be homesick from time to time. Plus, your parents want to hear from you anyway!

Stay organized

Dry-erase board, cork board, day planner, sticky-notes, extension cord ... the list goes on and on and on, so be sure to give yourself ample time to gear up for the college life ahead.

And a few more things you need to pack:

- ⚡ Decorated tack board
- ⚡ Picture frame
- ⚡ Mounting tape for places where nails can't go
- ⚡ Utility hooks
- ⚡ A tool kit

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