



Moving house is child's play: How to load a van/truck

To load a small van or truck in such a way that it will take the maximum possible load without creating any issues or problems is not just a question of experience. It is also a case of loading the vehicle in the right way.

Most of us only drive a rental van once in a number of years for a house move from one road to the next or from one town or city to the next. At such times, the "novice" will not only wrestle with the unusual size of the vehicle, but also with how to load this sheer wonder of space. Sadly and only too often, even unintentional mistakes are made which could be avoided by doing some research prior to the move.

We would like to take this opportunity to provide you with some hints and tips on how to load a van or truck in the hope that it will help you to make your moving day a real success.

Instructions on how to load a removal van

From preparation right through to securing the load

Step 1: Preparation

- Avoid cramming your boxes full to the top – you will have to carry them later.
- Pack systematically – heavy items at the bottom and light items on top.
- Use same-sized boxes in order to maximize the load space.
- Wrap fragile items like mirrors, pictures or lamps in moving blankets.
- Secure your furniture and items – use tension belts for example.



Note: Please avoid using banana crates or other shipping cartons – the cost saving you may be making from your point of view will be disproportionate to the damage that may be caused by inadequate materials. And damage in transit most often occurs in the first few meters.

Step 2: Loading

- Start with your moving boxes.
- Always load in a row and use the entire height of the vehicle.
- Pack heavy items at the bottom and light items at the top.
- Mirrors, shelving or long items should be secured along the vehicle wall – be aware the van may sway when you move around in it.
- Place any large furniture items in the centre of the vehicle.
- Place unwieldy small items on the floor and use the space under chairs or inside cupboards for example.
- Always place items front to front and back to back.
- Heavy electrical goods such as fridge-freezers and washing machines go in last – they protect and support the rest of the removal items.

Note: Ensure that the vehicle is loaded evenly and that furniture items are spread well.

Step 3: Securing the Load

- Prior to loading your van or truck, make sure that you have familiarised yourself with the legal and technical requirements on securing a load.
- Protect your furniture against scratches and score marks with moving blankets.
- When choosing a lashing strap make sure of the following:
 - Check for correct GS-Logo and TÜV mark;
 - LC value with details of tension force;
 - Check tensioning strap fits the load tensioning rail;
 - Check strap is in perfect condition with no cuts, damage or wear and tear.

Note: Please remember that whatever you load first will be unloaded last. Make sure you don't end up blocking the access to any rooms in your new house.

Step 4: Unloading

- In excessive heat make sure you have plenty of breaks.
- Avoid getting too many helpers in as they may end up being in each other's way.
- If the van is parked on an incline, you must place brake chocks underneath the vehicle.

Note: Refrigeration equipment should be left to rest for safety reasons for 24 hours after being moved.

Our Sixt Moving Accessories Offer:

MOVING PACKS TO PURCHASE in £*

Removal pack, small £29.99 / Pack
(including 3 blankets, 3 locking lashing straps, 5 moving boxes)

MOVING ACCESSORIES TO PURCHASE in £*

Furniture cover £3.98 / blanket
Packing boxes £11.99 / 5 boxes
Load securing strap £3.98 / strap
Load securing strap with ratchet £7.99 / strap

MOVING ACCESSORIES FOR RENTAL in £*

Sack barrow £9.98 / day
Dolly Trolley £4.99 / day

You have rented the removal van, but you still need removal accessories? [Here](#) you can book any optional extras easily.

*All prices quoted are inclusive of statutory VAT. Any prices shown on this page are for information only and may not be the prices currently charged. Please always check our current offers. Thank you.

Our tip for your next house move:

The demand for removal vans at weekends is always particularly high. If you can plan your move to be between Monday and Thursday, then you may well be able to make savings.

Any other questions?

Do you have any other questions regarding the loading of vehicles or would you like to book a vehicle? Please call us, we will only be too happy to help.

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