

PACKING TIPS

When you're traveling, do you only pack the things you need—or the things you think you will need? In this exhibit, learn traveler's tips to packing, so you won't even have to think, "Is my bag over 50 pounds? Does it fit?"

Imagine you were traveling on **Southwest Airlines** and flying from San Jose to Boston:

- You are allowed two carry-on bags free.
- You are allowed two checked bags (under 50 pounds) free.
- Each checked bag over 51 pounds costs \$75, each way.

Imagine you were traveling on **WOW Air** and flying from Boston to London:

- Each carry-on bag over 11 pounds costs \$38.
- Each checked bag under 44 pounds costs \$67, each way.
- Every pound over 44 pounds in the checked bag costs \$9.

Wouldn't you pack differently if you were flying on WOW Air, rather than Southwest? Learn what to pack, how to pack, and what not to pack.

To read this online, visit TheTransportationMuseum.com.

Roll your Clothes

Rolling your clothes may take a little extra time, but it saves space, for sure! If you're worried that your clothes will get wrinkly, and you don't have an iron, roll up your clothes on the way home, so you can save space for the many souvenirs you've purchased.

Plan Ahead

Don't pack the day before you leave for the trip, start earlier and save money! Use a packing list and organize what you're bringing, and give yourself time to wash your favorite clothes so you don't pack dirty shirts and pants.

Pack Matching Colors

If you take 18 shirts on a 16-day vacation, something's wrong. Pack shirts and shorts/pants that go together. For example, if you have nine blue t-shirts, five pairs of blue jeans, and one neon t-shirt, don't bring the neon t-shirt if it means you have to pack a neon pair of shorts so you can look nice. Pack clothes that come in the same color.

Stay at Hotels with Laundry Services

You're considering staying at a cheap motel for \$85 a night, but there's a Hilton a few block away for \$105 a night. The Hilton has laundry services, but the motel doesn't. Consider spending a few extra dollars at hotels with laundry services so you can re-wear your clothes during the trip, rather than packing one pair of clothes per day of your trip.

Pack in your Shoes

If you're bringing more than one pair of shoes on the trip, pack your underwear and socks inside your shoes. Chargers for electronics and travel alarm clocks can also fit in your shoes, too.

Buy clothes at thrift stores

Unless you're going to a wedding or some vacation where nice clothing matters, only pack a few pairs of clothing and then visit a local thrift store to buy some cheap clothing. Then, when you're done with your vacation, either take the clothes back home if you really like them, or donate them back to the thrift store if you don't want to throw them away.

Simplify kids' clothes

If you have a young child, pack their daily clothes together in a Ziploc bag. You can fit shorts, a t-shirt, a pair of underwear, and two socks in a large Ziploc bag, and toss it in to the suitcase. Then, there's no hunting around for clothes, they're all organized day-by-day!

Bring one piece of jewelry

Rather than bringing one nice pair of clothes that you'll only wear once on your whole trip, and then have to carry around during the rest of your vacation, bring one small piece of jewelry or a nice scarf. One small object like that makes you look nice, but it's not super heavy or super large.

Pack a Poncho

If you're traveling to a wet destination or visiting in the rainy season, bring a two-pack of ponchos. They're cheap, light, and small, and you can throw them away when you're done, rather than keeping an umbrella for the whole trip.

Reward Yourself if you Pack Wisely

Set goals for yourself about packing, and then if you succeed in packing wisely, reward yourself. You can reward yourself with a seat upgrade or a few extra souvenirs, now that your suitcase can fit more stuff.

