

VACATION PACKING CHECKLIST

BEDDING

- Bath towels (usually only 1/person is supplied)
- Bed linens (usually supplied)
- Favorite Pillow
- Wash cloths (usually only 1/person is supplied; bring your old ones)

BEFORE LEAVING HOME CHECKLIST

- Check all doors and windows are locked
- Check stove, oven and iron
- Forward phone to cell phone
- Give key to neighbors for security, mail and newspapers
- Lock windows and doors
- Put timer on lights
- Reduce heat, hot water heater and A/C settings
- Secure all outdoor items
- Set alarm
- Set heat/air conditioning to moderate temp
- Set timer lights
- Stop mail delivery
- Stop newspaper delivery
- Unplug appliances: TVs, VCRS/DVD players, coffee maker, toaster, computer
- Unplug chargers in unused cars (drains the battery in 2-3 weeks)
- Water plants

Prep for Vacation

- Contact your cell phone provider to check:
 - Coverage where you'll vacation.
 - If there are roaming charges, consider a temporary plan change.
- Car or booster seat laws by state: <http://www.inventiveparent.com/state-laws.htm>
- Copy all IDs, credit cards, travelers checks, memberships (AAA), seal in envelope, give to trusted contact
- MP3 downloads: recorded books from the library, podCasts, music
- Pet care arrangements
- SMS numbers for cell phone text messages to obtain local info: Google SMS, Starbucks SMS, Traffic Map SMS
- Send email to all vacationers; give all your cell numbers and ask for theirs; update all your cell phones
- Update GPS software with latest maps.
- Update jump drive with new account info

Give neighbors your travel information:

- Cell phone numbers
- Itinerary during trip
- Name and car of house/pet sitter
- Name, address, telephone number
- Vacation dates
- Vacation phone numbers
- Emergency number (a friend/relative)

Give housesitter information about house:

- Alarm information
- Cars will be left out
- Lights will be left on
- Names of any maintenance people (gardeners, maid service, etc.)

CAR TRAVEL

- Cooler
- Coupons for meals and hotels
- Drinks
- Flashlight
- Guidebooks
- Maps and travel directions
- MP3 player and car adapter
- Paper towels
- Proof of auto insurance
- Snacks
- Soduko
- Trash bag
- Travel games
- Umbrella
- Wet wipes

Drive safely

Kids

- Blankets
- Books
- Coloring books, game and puzzle magazines
- Crayons and colored pencils
- Drawing pad
- Games
- Travel journal, route map and travel stickers
- Movies
- New small toys
- Pillows
- Portable DVD player

CHILDREN

Kids

- Back-pack
- Board games
- Car or booster seat (laws by state: <http://www.inventiveparent.com/state-laws.htm>)
- Coloring books, crayons, etc.
- Favorite blanket
- Favorite or new movies
- Favorite games and toys
- Handheld games
- Movies
- Rainy day entertainment
- School work assignments
- Tote for all toys and games

Babies and Toddlers

- Baby food
- Baby swim diapers
- Baby wipes
- Bibs
- Bottles
- Car seat

- Car window shades
- Diaper bag
- Favorite blanket
- Favorite toys
- Diapers
- ID tags
- Pack and Play (may be supplied)
- Picture books
- Portable crib
- Portable high chair (may be supplied)
- Room intercom/baby monitor
- Sippy cups
- Stroller
- Swim diapers

CLOTHES

- A collared shirt and tie for special dinners
- Arch supports or foot beds (SuperFeet.com)
- Bathing suits and coverups (in many places it's frowned on or illegal to walk around with just a bathing suit on.)
- Bathrobe
- Beach sandals or flip flops
- Belts
- Bras
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Cover-ups (swimsuit)
- Dress shoes
- Fanny pack or Back pack
- Flip flops
- Hair bands/clips
- Hat
- Hat-baseball, straw
- Hats/visors
- Hiking shoes
- Jewelry/scarves
- Ladies-jacket or sweater for restaurants
- Light jacket or wind-breaker
- Pajamas
- Pajamas/night shirt
- Pants
- Panty hose
- Pool shoes
- Sandals
- Shirts
- Shoes – sandals, flip-flop, tennis, walking
- Shorts
- Shorts/capris
- Slacks/dress
- Socks
- Socks
- Suit/evening outfits
- Sun glasses

- Sunglasses w/strap
- Sweatband/bandanna
- Swim suits
- Swimsuits
- Tank-tops/t-shirts
- Underwear
- Underwear
- Watches

DAY BAG AND ITEMS FOR THEME PARKS

- Antibacterial hand gel
- Autograph book and marker
- Baby food
- Video recorder, tapes and extra battery
- Camera, memory stick, film and batteries
- Cash (lots, really) and credit card
- Cell phones
- Collapsible cooler
- Disposable camera for kids
- Driver's license/id for each adult
- Dry change of clothes for kids
- Glow sticks and necklaces
- Emergency bag with:
 - Bandages, various sizes
 - Bandage, 1 large for knee-size abrasion
 - Blister bandages
 - Contact number for rental car (after you loose the keys)
 - Duct Tape, about 1 foot rolled up
 - Insect repellent, wipe on pads or small bottle
 - Pain medicine
 - Safety pins
 - Scissors, rounded kid's tip
 - Tissues
 - Wet wipes, travel pack-size
- Fanny packs
- Guidebooks
- Handheld games to keep kids occupied in line
- Hats/visors/sweatbands/bandannas
- Keys, door and car.
- Keys, extras carried by a different person
- Kids ID tags
- Large zip-top bags for wet clothes
- Lip balm with sunscreen
- Meal and show reservation numbers
- Membership cards (to call AAA after you loose your car keys)
- Mister fan and extra batteries
- Neck lanyard for car and room keys
- Park maps
- Pennies for pressing
- Rain ponchos
- Rain poncho or umbrella

- Snacks
- Stroller
- Sunglasses and straps
- Sunscreen
- Theme park tickets
- Walkie-talkies (but all frequencies are in use)
- Water bottles with strap (drink lot to avoid dehydration tantrums)

DAY BAG FOR WATER PARKS

- Antibacterial hand gel
- Bathing suits
- Beach bag
- Beach towels
- Books/magazines
- Cash (more that you think) and credit card
- Cell phones
- Collapsible cooler
- Drivers license/ID for each adult
- Dry change of clothes for kids
- Earplugs
- Floatation toys
- Goggles
- Hats/visors/sweatbands/bandannas
- Insect repellent
- Kids ID tags with several emergency phone numbers
- Tissues
- Large zip-top bags for wet clothes
- Lip balm with sunscreen
- Mister fan and extra batteries
- Neck lanyard for room key/tickets
- Pain medicine
- Snacks
- Sunglasses w/straps
- Sunscreen
- Swim diapers
- Walkie-talkies
- Water bottle strap
- Water park tickets
- Water shoes/flip flops
- Water toys
- Waterproof camera
- Waterproof case
- Waterproof watch
- Wet wipes

DOGS ON VACATION

- Blankets
- Bowls for food and water
- Dog food
- Dog sweaters
- Doggie motion sickness medicine

- Doggie medicine
- Favorite toys
- Portable pet fence - to keep pets confined
- Leash
- Poop bags
- Nature's Miracle and paper towels for accidents
- Pillows
- Treats

ELECTRONICS

- Batteries, take every size
- Battery chargers
- Camera bag
- Camera batteries, charger, video out cable
- Cameras
- Camera memory stick
- Camera film
- Cameras for kids, disposable waterproof
- CD player, charger, headphones, and output cable to stereo
- Cell car charger
- Cell charger
- Cell phone
- GPS and batteries
- Laptop computer, charger, USB cables, wireless network card, internet cable
- MP3 player, charger, headphones and output cable to stereo
- Music CDs
- PDA and charger
- Video recorder
- Video recorder batteries
- Video recorder charger
- Video recorder memory cards or tapes
- Walkie-talkies and batteries

ENTERTAINMENT

- Books and magazines
- Frisbee
- Games
- Playing cards and rule book
- Puzzles
- Travel journal

FIRST AID AND MEDICAL

- Aloe Vera gel
- Antacids
- Antibiotic ointment
- Anti-itch medication
- Band-aids
- Blister pads
- Cough drops
- Ear-dry
- Eye drops
- First aid kit

- Kids pain medicine
- Excedrin Migraine
- Motion sickness medication
- Pain reliever
- Prescription medications
- Safety pins
- Sinus/allergy medicine

FOOD

- Beer and wine
- Bottled water
- Chips and pretzels
- Coffee
- Coffee
- Coffee-creamers
- Crackers
- Equal or sweet 'n low
- Fruit snacks
- Granola bars
- Hot chocolate
- Jam
- Popcorn
- Salt and pepper
- Small cereal boxes
- Spice wheel with your favorite seasonings
- Spices or special condiments
- Sugar
- Tea bags

Food – Kids and Babies

- Baby Food
- Jelly
- Juice boxes
- Peanut butter
- Pop tarts

GENERAL HOUSE SUPPLIES

- Beach bag
- Candles
- Citronella candles
- Collapsible cooler
- Fire wood for fireplace
- Flashlight and batteries
- Matches
- Mini-reading light
- Mosquito coils
- Nightlights for each bathroom
- Sewing kit
- Tissues
- Toilet Paper
- Umbrella
- Wet wipes

KITCHEN SUPPLIES

- Coffee filters
- Coffee filters
- Coffee filters, type:
- Corkscrew
- Corkscrew
- Dish liquid detergent
- Dish scrubber
- Dish soap
- Dish towels
- Dish towels
- Dishwasher detergent
- Disposable cups
- Flatware
- Frying pans
- Garbage bags
- Kitchen trash bags
- Knives
- Napkins
- Paper plates
- Paper plates
- Paper towels
- Paper towels
- Paper towels
- Plastic garbage bags
- Plastic utensils
- Plastic wrap and foil and plastic bags
- Recipes for vacation cooking
- Straws
- Trash bags
- Wine stopper
- Zip lock bags - several sizes
- Zip top bags

KITCHEN EQUIPMENT – YOU JUST CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT

- Coffee maker
- Espresso machine
- Non-stick fry pan
- Panini press
- Water filtering pitcher

LAUNDRY ITEMS

- Dryer sheets
- Laundry bags
- Laundry soap

OFFICE SUPPLIES

- Envelopes for maid tips
- Friends and relatives addresses for postcards
- Friends and relatives e-mail addresses
- Marker
- Notepad

- Paper and pen or pencil
- Pens
- Stamps
- Stationery
- Writing materials, stamps and journal

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES AND SPORTS

- Bicycle
- Diving gear
- Exercise: heart monitor, pedometer, clothing, equipment
- Fishing pole and tackle
- Golf clubs
- Tennis rackets
- Water sports bottle or water bottle strap
- Waterproof case

Snorkeling and Swimming

- Air mattress
- Aqua socks or dive booties
- Beach towels
- Beach umbrella
- Blow-up water toys
- Disposable underwater camera
- Diver case for camera
- Fins
- Mask
- Radio
- Snorkel
- Snorkeling shirt of quick-dry material to prevent sunburn
- Sun block
- Surfboard/boogie board
- Waist flotation device
- Waterproof case for wallet
- Zip lock bags for shells

OVERNIGHT/CARRY-ON BAG WITH ESSENTIALS FOR 1 DAY

PERSONAL

- Cash/credit cards
- Checkbook
- Dollar bills for tips and tolls
- Driver's license/IDs
- Health insurance card
- Jump drive with password for private info: account numbers, passwords, credit card numbers...
- Membership cards (such as AAA, DVC)
- Passports/birth certificates
- Phone and addresses of family, friends, neighbors, doctors, veterinarian
- Traveler's checks

TOILETRIES

- Bath soap
- Bath soap/shampoo

- Bathroom tissue
- Blow dryer
- Blow-dryer
- Body lotion
- Body powder
- Brush and/or comb
- Bubble bath
- Contact lens solution
- Contacts
- Deodorant
- Earplugs
- Face lotion
- Face wash
- Foot powder
- Glasses
- Hair brush or comb
- Hair conditioner
- Hair spray
- Hair styling product
- Insect repellent
- Lip balm with sunscreen
- Makeup
- Make-up remover
- Nail clippers or scissors
- Nail file
- Nail polish
- Nail polish remover
- Perfume
- Prescription medication
- Q-tips
- Razor and shaving cream
- Razors
- Razors
- Reading glasses
- Shampoo
- Shaver
- Shaving cream
- Shower cap
- Soap or bath gel
- Sunscreen, waterproof
- Sunscreen for face
- Tampons or pads
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Tweezers
- Vitamins

Kids Toiletries

- Insect repellent for children
- Kid's hairbrush/comb
- Kid's shampoo

- Kid's toothbrushes
- Kids soap/ bath gel
- Vitamins

TRAVEL RESERVATIONS AND TICKETS

- Hotel confirmation
- Phone numbers of reservation/customer service/local office
- Plane tickets (make copies)
- Rental car confirmation
- Theme park tickets (make copies)

TRAVEL INFORMATION

- Discount coupons
- Guidebooks
- Maps/directions to hotel, rental agency, special restaurants, shows, museums, Costco or Sam's Club

TRAVEL OUTSIDE THE USA

- Kid's birth certificate (more needed if only one parent accompanying kid)
- Picture ID and a birth certificate with a raised seal, or a passport. (check with your airline for the current rules)
- Prescription: Meds in original containers, doctor's name and phone number.
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