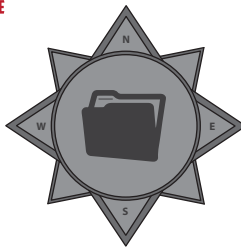


PACKING AND SHIPPING BOXES

Packing and shipping boxes is just a part of life these days. Especially with internet sales and auction sites, it seems this is only going to become a bigger part of all of our lives. All that being said, it does not mean everyone is doing a great job at it. So, we want to make sure we do it well, or we could end up with an expensive slip up.

FLIP OVER FOR YOUR NEXT CHALLENGE



EARN THIS NUGGET

- Get some old china, glass wear, or anything else that is breakable, but ready to be thrown away. Pack in a box and drop from 24 inches on ten different corners, edges, and sides. Open up and see how well you did.
- Pack four boxes and ship for the family, if possible.

1. First thing you will want is a good box. Not all boxes are created equal, and if you are talking about corrugated cardboard, there are lots of different thicknesses as well as paper grades. If you look on the bottom there will probably be a stamp; this will have a grade of paper. If you need a strong box, avoid the ones that say 32ECT or 200#, you want one that is closer to 44ECT or 275#.

2. Now, the size of the box is important. You want it a little bigger than the item you are shipping, so you can add packing materials. Not too much, just some cushioning. A box that is too small offers little protection. And too large, the packing material will settle and move. Then your treasured item could bounce around like a pinball.

3. Good tape. And let me say, people are really good at taping up the top of a box, but all too often forget about the bottom. Make sure both have several layers of good packing tape on them.

4. Finally, put address information inside for both you and the person you are sending it to. If for some reason the shipping label is lost, it would be good if a diligent carrier could get it where it's going or, at least, get it back to you.

