



LUTHER MANOR

A Life Plan Community

HOW TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OF DOWNSIZING & MOVING

Downsizing Tips for Seniors



HOW TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OF DOWNSIZING & MOVING



Moving is one of the biggest decisions of your life! The emotions and work involved can seem overwhelming, but your new lifestyle will make everything worth the initial hassle. As we get older, it's only natural to want to declutter and enjoy the simple pleasures of life with a smaller home. Luckily, we have some downsizing tips for seniors that can make your transition easier.

You're Not in This Alone

Senior downsizing can look intimidating at first, but with the right help and the right community, it's a smooth transition to the vibrant life you dreamed of. Downsizing has a lot of moving parts, but you'll have the peace of mind knowing that there's plenty of help you can rely on.



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Need Help Selling Your House?

Older adults may prefer to work with a **Senior Real Estate Specialist** – a realtor who is trained in and has experience with working with seniors.

A Senior Real Estate Specialist will advise and help with the practical parts of selling a house, including:

- ✓ Deciding the value of the home and other financial planning
- ✓ The timing of the sale
- ✓ Determining the necessary size of the new residence
- ✓ Legalities surrounding the sale and inspection; other realtor services
- ✓ Which home improvements and updates should be made before putting it on the market
- ✓ Staging the home to make it more attractive to potential sellers



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Need Help Packing Up Your Things?

Don't think you have to figure out downsizing all by yourself. In fact, we recommend looking into a **Senior Move Manager**. A Certified Senior Move Manager can make the move easier, by helping with the emotional parts.

A Certified Senior Move Manager can make the move easier, by helping with the emotional parts. They will:

- ✓ Consult with you to create a plan, broken down into manageable steps with predetermined roles for all involved
- ✓ Act as an intermediary, if necessary, between older adults and their adult children
- ✓ Go through possessions and help to determine which to keep and which to pack
- ✓ Help pack and move!
- ✓ Arrange an estate sale or charitable donation pick up
- ✓ Staging the home to make it more attractive to potential sellers



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Here's How to Start the Process:



Plan your future home. See what's available; tour nearby senior communities to decide which is right for you.



Determine how much your home is worth. A Senior Real Estate Specialist can help.



Decide where you would like to move.



Start to downsize by engaging the help of a Certified Senior Move Manager.



Prepare for the sale.



Sell your house.



Move. Enjoy your new home!



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Tips & Tricks for Downsizing & Moving

- ✓ **Clear your garage.** This is not a job to leave until the last minute. Same with attics or any other out of the way storage areas. Take advantage of the weather – do the garage and attic when it's nice and leave sorting photos for a rainy day.
- ✓ **Get rid of hazardous waste properly!** Take advantage of hazardous waste days and drug recycle days if possible.
- ✓ **Clean out your closets.** Be realistic about how you will live your life going forward – do you really need the business suit, ball gown, etc.?
- ✓ **Clear out your medicine cabinet.** Get rid of anything past its expiration date!
- ✓ **Go through paperwork.** A tedious process and best done when you can take time to sort and review. Example: Do you really need the manual from a toaster you threw out two years ago?
- ✓ **Sort through photos and memorabilia.** Digitize what you can and take only what you love and will display.
- ✓ **Realize your children don't want/need half your stuff.** They've got their own stuff! Check with your kids to see what they would like to have.
- ✓ **If you are still collecting stuff – stop it!** Instead collect new experiences and memories, not possessions.



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Learn more about the exciting next chapter that awaits and how we can help with your move by contacting us today.



We're Here to Help!

**Reach out to a
Senior Living Advisor**
414.464.3880
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