



# What to bring to college

Congratulations on being accepted to college and committing to the school of your choice! You are about to move out of your home for the first time. You may or may not have a roommate, and you don't know how much of your "stuff" to bring. Regardless, you will have limited space. Here are some recommendations:

## The Essentials

- Driver's license
- Health insurance card
- Credit card/cash
- List of emergency contacts
- Bank info/checks
- Back up car key
- Scissors
- [Planner](#)

## Dorm/apartment Bedroom

- Bedding: 2 sets of sheets, blanket/comforter, pillows
- Mattress topper (this is a must for comfort)
  - [3" Memory Foam w/ Cooling Gel Mattress topper](#) (I bought this one for my daughter)
  - [4" Memory Foam Mattress Topper - Twin XL](#)
- Mattress protector
  - [Twin XL - Waterproof Mattress Protector \(full encasement\)](#)
  - [Twin XL - Breathable Mattress Protector](#)
- Under bed storage
  - [Under bed cube organizer](#) (24" tall)
  - [Drawer organizer](#) (25" tall)
- [Bedside shelf](#)
- [Tall charging nightstand](#)
- [3-in-1 iPhone Charging Station](#) - Charges phone, watch and AirPods
- [Bedside/desk lamp](#)
  - 3 way, dimmable, AC outlet and charging ports
- [Woozoo Fan](#) - NOTE: only purchase Model #PCF-SC15T - The models are NOT the same. (sold at Costco - best fan EVER!) If it is out of stock at Costco, only buy the model shown - the other models are not as good.
  - [Fan Shelfie](#)
- [Desktop hutch](#)
- [Vanity mirror with lights](#)
- [White Noise machine](#) (desktop) or [White Noise Machine](#) (plug in)
- [Laundry basket/bag](#)
- Hangers
  - [Velvet Hangers](#)
  - [Hoodie Hangers](#)
  - [Hanging Shoe Rack \(10 pairs\)](#)
- [Dish drying mat](#) - good for wet shoes!
- First aid kit - *create your own & do not buy a prepackaged one (the below are items to be considered)*
  - Cold/flu medicine \*\*\*\*(This one is the most important - everyone gets sick at the same time)
  - Advil/Tylenol
  - Decongestant/Saline nasal spray
  - Cough drops
  - Allergy medicine
  - Imodium



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- Powdered electrolyte packets
- Antacid
- Eye drops/eye wash
- Neosporin or Aquafor
- Hydrocortisone cream
- Band-aids
- Tweezers
- Gauze pads/medical tape
- **Scissors**
- Ice pack
- Gloves/mask
- Vitamins
- Thermometer
- Pulse oximeter
- COVID test
- Condoms/Plan B
- Clothes
  - 1-2 business outfits (for an interview or other event)
  - Pack a max 1 month worth of clothes. If you are returning home between the break, think about trading out seasonal clothes.
  - Jacket/windbreaker

## Dorm/apartment Bathroom

- 1-2 body towels, hand towels, washcloths (great deals at Costco!!)
  - [Quick dry towel set with loops](#)
- [Robe](#)
- Toothbrush, toothpaste, floss, mouthwash
- Soap/body wash, Shampoo/conditioner, razor/refills, deodorant, cologne, lotion
- [Shower caddy](#) & shower shoes (if needed)
- Cotton swabs/balls & Q-tips
- Toilet paper (yes, you need to supply your own) & Kleenex
- Hair dryer, flat iron, curling iron and/or other hair products
- Small garbage can
- Over the door options
  - [Over the door towel hook](#)
  - [Over the door - 2 baskets with hooks](#)
  - [Over the door - 5 shelves & 10 side mesh pockets](#)

## Dorm Common Area

- Coordinate with your roommate (if applicable) so you don't buy duplicate items
  - Mini fridge (not for apartment)
  - Microwave
  - Coffee maker/kettle
  - Garbage can & bags
  - Area rug
  - Posters/art
- Refillable water bottle
- [Mini refrigerator/microwave stand](#)
  - [Magnetic shelves & paper towel holder](#)
- [Dish drying mat](#) (good for drying your bowls/utensils)
- Cleaning supplies
  - All-purpose cleaner & sponge
  - Broom/dustpan, stick vacuum or dustbuster



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- [Dirt Devil Stik Vacuum 3-in-1](#)
- [6-in-1 Cordless Stick Vacuum](#)
- [Handheld vacuum \(cordless\)](#)
- Air freshener
- Paper towels or microfiber towels

## School Electronics

- Laptop or iPad
- Dongles/charging cords
  - Phone
  - Extra laptop charger (one for your dorm and one for your backpack)
  - [Flat plug power strip/surge protector with USB ports](#) - this is a must for dorms
- Extension cords
  - [Single flat plug with split Extension cord with AC and USB ports](#)
  - [Flat plug power strip/surge protector with USB ports](#) - this is a must for dorms
    - Check with your dorm to verify if and kind allowed
- [3-in-1 iPhone Charging Station](#) - Charges phone, watch and AirPods
- Headphones/earbuds
  - [AirPods 4](#) - With their noise canceling option, they can stay focused while they study
  - [Tagry bluetooth wireless headphones](#) - Don't want to pay the AirPod price? These are more affordable
- [Echo Spot](#) - Perfect to help your student be on time for their college classes.

## Recommendations

- [Folding hand truck](#) (for the parents to help transport items from the car to your room)
- [Umbrella \(compact\)](#)
- Waterproof backpack or [waterproof](#) your existing backpack or purchase a [waterproof cover](#) for your backpack
- *Noise canceling earphones/earbuds* (Perfect for noisy roommates, so you can sleep or study)
- Tracking device to attach to your keys, backpack, and/or wallet (*I cannot tell you how many stories I have heard of people losing these things on campus!*)
  - [Tile Essentials](#) (2 Mate, 1 Slim & 1 Sticker)
  - [Tile Starter Pack](#) (1 Mate, 1 Slim)
  - [Tile Mate](#) (single)
  - [Tile Wallet Finder](#)
  - [AirTag](#) (single)
  - [AirTag 4 Pack](#)
- [ID wallet/lanyard](#)
  - To hold your campus ID & keys
    - You WILL need your campus ID to access your dorm and for meal swipes at the various eateries on campus
- [Clear bag](#) - For stadium events. There are various styles from crossbody to full purses.
- [Laundry sheets](#) - Instead of liquid, powder, or pods. Weighs next to nothing, cleans well and is good for the environment.
- [Small portable safe with combo lock](#)
  - Make sure to get the kind that has the cable to attach it to something solid.
  - No key lock ones...in case you lose your keys.
  - Use to keep extra cash, prescription medicine
- [Brita water pitcher](#)
- Flashlight/batteries
- [Small toolkit](#)



# What to bring to college

- [VENO Moving Bags](#) - these are the BEST for packing and moving, the best part is they fold up after use and take up little space. They are similar to the discontinued IKEA Frakta bags.



- Bringing a car? Purchase a [portable tire inflator](#)
- [Nightcap](#) - the Original Drink Cover Scrunchie - Drink spiking prevention (& StopTopps)

## Items many students brought too much of

- School supplies - You will mostly use your computer
- Clothes
  - Do **not** overpack. If you are in a dorm, you WILL have to move out at the end of the year. If you are in an apartment, you will have to move out at the end of the Summer if you are moving apartments. If you renewed your lease for the apartment and are staying in the same place, you do not have to move out, but still be aware of how much stuff you will have to move out when your lease ends.