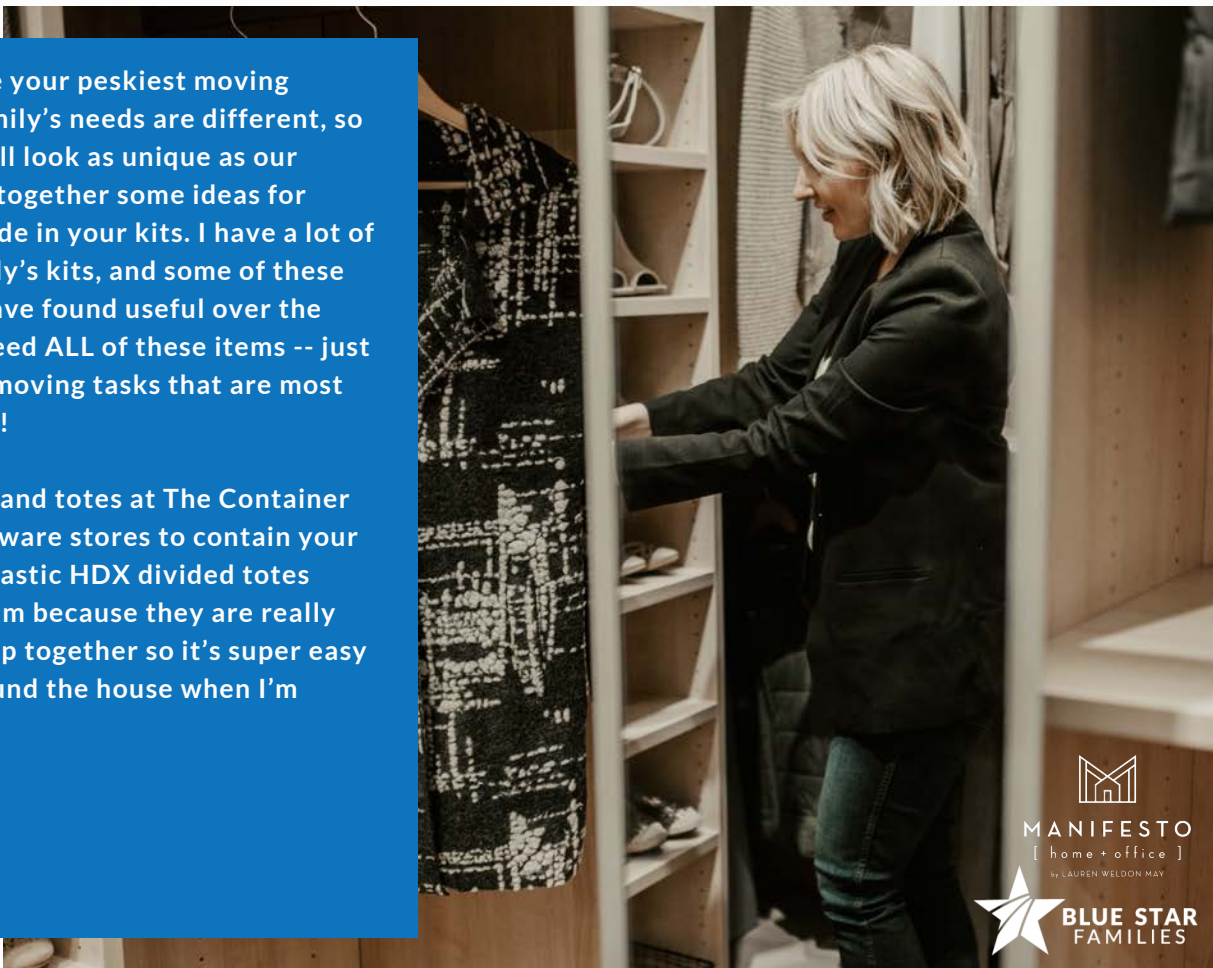


PCS Prep Kits can help solve your peskiest moving problems. Every military family's needs are different, so everyone's PCS Prep Kits will look as unique as our individual families! I've put together some ideas for items you may want to include in your kits. I have a lot of these things in my own family's kits, and some of these items are tools my clients have found useful over the years. You certainly don't need ALL of these items -- just the ones that help with the moving tasks that are most daunting or annoying to you!

There are great bins, boxes, and totes at The Container Store, craft stores, and hardware stores to contain your kits. My own kits live in fantastic HDX divided totes from Home Depot. I love them because they are really sturdy, have handles, and clip together so it's super easy to carry a set of several around the house when I'm doing my PCS projects!

Happy PCS'ing!

- *Lauren*



MANIFESTO  
[ home + office ]  
BY LAUREN WELDON MAY



BLUE STAR  
FAMILIES

# THE PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZER'S PCS PREP KIT CHECKLIST



## PICTURE HANGING EDITION

- Your basic toolbox = hammer, level, drill, and screwdriver
- eTAPE16 Digital Tape Measure. My favorite tape measure ever because it can switch between multiple units of measurement and give exact center measurements.
- Bosch Laser Tape Measure. An essential for military families in my opinion. Makes space planning and hanging pictures much easier.
- Hang-O-Matic All-In-One Picture Hanging Tool. A fabulous tool for those pesky two-nail hangings.
- Laser level. Useful for hanging ledges and shelves.
- Ook Professional Picture Hangers. In weight limits from 5 to 100 lbs. There's also a padded version to help protect walls! Infinitely better than traditional picture hangers.
- Clear adhesive bumpers + clear Museum Gel for backs of frames to keep pictures hanging straight
- Assorted sizes of Command Picture Hanging Strips
- Kraft or wrapping paper for planning gallery walls
- Painter's tape for planning gallery walls. Can also be used to help hang two-nail pictures. Tutorials are available online!
- Assorted nails, screws, and anchors
- Picture hanging wire, D-rings, and sawtooth picture hangers
- Fancy push pins for posters and calendars, etc.
- Pencils for marking walls
- 3M High Strength Small Hole Repair All-in-One Applicator Tool for filling in nail and screw holes
- Paintbrushes for move-out touch-ups

# THE PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZER'S PCS PREP KIT CHECKLIST

## CORD MANAGEMENT EDITION

- Cord labeling tags. There are tons of choices ranging from flexible label maker labels to silicone write-on versions to velcro options.
- Cable ties. Options include velcro, ribbon-style, cord wraps, etc.
- Assorted sizes of clear zip ties
- Blue Lounge adhesive cable drop clips
- Command cable clips for routing cords along the back of furniture pieces
- Wrap-It Cable Clams from The Container Store for taming kitchen appliance cords when not in use
- Velcro tape for bundling cords
- Cable zippers for bundling cords
- Outlet splitters. IKEA makes great ones!
- Power strips and extension cords
- Blue Lounge Cable Boxes



# THE PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZER'S PCS PREP KIT CHECKLIST



## MOVING DAY EDITION

- Moving binder or accordion file for your important PCS-related papers. There are a ton of great templates and layouts available online.
- A home inventory app. Not a physical item for your kit but one I think is absolutely essential! My favorite is [Airtable](#).
- Hardware box for furniture parts and pieces. Do NOT let the movers take your hardware!
- Doorstop. The Container Store has great compact options.
- Assorted box cutters. My favorite is the Slice.
- Packing tape
- Color-coded moving tags or colored duct tape for boxes and corresponding colored door signs to direct boxes to the correct room in your new location
- "In Case I'm Lost" stickers with your name, phone number, and email address to stick on each and every box in case anything gets separated from your household goods!
- Sharpies
- Hard floor and carpet furniture moving sliders
- Assorted felt furniture pads
- Assorted non-skid furniture pads
- Ziploc bags x 1,000,000!
- Clear trash bags and Ziploc Big Bags for linens and clothing. I pre-pack these and the movers just drop them in a box!
- Paper lunch bags for pre-packing delicate items
- U-Haul packing paper. Hands down, the best out there.

# THE PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZER'S PCS PREP KIT CHECKLIST

# HOUSEHOLD ORGANIZATION EDITION

- A LABEL MAKER! DM Lauren @manifestohomeandoffice for recommendations.
- Assorted replacement cabinet shelf pins -- I keep a few of several style shelf pins in case some are missing in our new home! Easy to get at a hardware store.
- Assorted Command strips
- Assorted Command hooks and clips
- Alcohol prep pads for prepping to install Command products
- Magnetic hooks for garages, basements, and other spaces with magnetic columns
- Key tags to label the myriad of keys you likely have from various locks, storage units, backyard gates, etc.
- Thumb Scrapers for removing labels and stickers
- Sharpie Paint Pens for labeling acrylic bins. Can be erased with rubbing alcohol or alcohol prep pads.
- Clothing rod dividers for labeling sections of your closet
- Non-adhesive drawer liner. Adhesive drawer liner is the **WORST** and should **NEVER** be used. **EVER**. Post-its for temporarily labeling cabinets and drawers
- Clear Museum Gel to keep drawer dividers from sliding around
- Graph paper for planning furniture arrangements and mapping out organizational product placement like drawer dividers and pantry bins



# THE PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZER'S PCS PREP KIT CHECKLIST



## BABY PROOFING EDITION

- Magnetic drawer and cabinet locks plus extra keys
- Command picture hanging strips. These velcro-style strips can be used to babyproof drawers and cabinets for younger children in addition to hanging up pictures! The BEST solution for rentals.
- Clear corner guards
- Clear outlet covers
- Outlet cover boxes to prevent kiddos from unplugging all the things!
- Foam pool noodles for furniture edges and corners
- Door locks for outside doors and doors to dangerous closets
- Door pinch guards. I like the C-shaped foam versions because they fit on virtually every interior door.
- Toilet locks
- Baby gate pieces. The Wall Nanny is super useful for protecting walls.
- Washing machine locks
- Adhesive appliance locks Stove and oven babyproofing locks
- Flexible strap locks. Can be used for appliances like fridges and dishwashers or drawers.
- Furniture securing brackets. TIP: IKEA will send you the correct brackets for free for any IKEA furniture you have!
- Cable tie-style furniture securing brackets
- TV mounting kits