

READING

HOW TO PACK FOR YOUR NEXT TRIP

Going on vacation is fun, but packing usually is not. “What should I bring?” travelers often ask. Many people are unsure and pack too much. Then they have to carry a heavy¹ suitcase or pay extra money for it at the airport. How can you pack your things in one easy-to-carry bag? Here are some helpful tips from travel writers Annie Fitzsimmons and Jared Gottlieb:

1. _____ When you travel, you only *need* a few things: your passport, credit cards, cell phone, and certain clothes (a suit for work, a sweater for cool weather, shorts for hot weather). What are these things? Make a list. Then pack only the important items.
2. _____ Do you plan to read on the trip? Leave books at home. They’re heavy. If you want to read, bring your tablet, or buy magazines or books at the airport. When you’re done, you can leave them on the plane or at the hotel.
3. _____ Bring mostly white, black, gray, tan, and blue clothes and shoes. These colors are easy to mix and match.² By doing this, you can pack fewer items.
4. _____ Are you going someplace chilly? If yes, wear some of your warm clothes—like sweaters, jackets, or boots—on the plane. These things take up a lot of room in your suitcase and make it heavy.
5. _____ Use these bags to organize³ the items in your suitcase. Put things like your toothbrush, soap, and shampoo in one bag, underwear and socks in another, shirts in another, and so on. By doing this, you use less space in your suitcase. It also makes it easier to unpack!

[1] A *heavy* object weighs a lot.

[2] If you *mix and match* two or more things, you put them together so they look good.

[3] If you *organize* things, you put them together in a neat, orderly way.

- a. Choose simple colors
- b. Don't bring books
- c. Wear your warm clothes on the plane
- d. Make a list
- e. Use plastic bags