### Result Details

Please share your top concerns, expectations, and experiences with moving, selling your home, downsizing in this space. For example, what did you do with the stuff you downsized? We will summarize and report in an upcoming article.

**Answers** | **Skips**
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305 | 310

50% | 50%

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<tr>
<th>Username</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>182,758,719</td>
<td>Today, 3:54PM</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>We took a couple of years downsizing. It was hard at first but got easier as we learned and lately it really feels good to be relieved of the burden of too much stuff. We've even downsized our travel luggage recently traveling for a whole month on a single carry-on each.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>182,756,808</td>
<td>Today, 3:25PM</td>
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<td><strong>We've given as much stuff as we can to Goodwill and similar orgs, but some of the stuff we have is not able to be donated (old equipment and such) and just needs to be hauled away, which is costly. It's piling up and creating problems (storage, and the sense that there's too much to deal with). The idea of moving and simplifying things is really attractive on the one hand, but on the other, it seems really overwhelming--just too many considerations--financial, logistics, adaptations...I'd like to think we can do it but at times, looking at all the considerations, it seems like it may not be worth it.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>182,742,625</td>
<td>Today, 8:54AM</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Plan to sell a lot of the furniture, such as formal living room, dining room and den furniture. We don't feel the cost of transporting these items will be worth the cost and they will probably not fit the style of the new homes we are looking to buy. Also, I don't want anything formal in the new house.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>182,731,064</td>
<td>Today, 3:23AM</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Nothing yet</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>182,709,548</td>
<td>Yesterday, 8:41AM</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>I regularly Donate clothing to Nursing homes, and books to the library. My issue is paperwork, I am afraid to throw something important away. Kitchen things take up so much room, like I finally went to four place setting, instead of eight. I had a garage sale and sold sentimental items, nic nacs, anything cluttering up my space that I had to dust.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>182,698,492</td>
<td>Saturday, Aug 19th 8:46PM</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Difficult to move out of area where we have lived our entire life but looking forward to living in an active adult community. No issues with moving to a smaller home but want a place that is just as nice. Small household items have been donated and larger items/furniture will be sold at auction.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>182,697,209</td>
<td>Saturday, Aug 19th 7:19PM</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>My biggest concerns include letting go of a lot of our &quot;stuff&quot;, do we sell our stuff or give it away or trash it, and getting the stuff we keep to our new home which may be some distance away.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>182,696,513</td>
<td>Saturday, Aug 19th 6:37PM</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>We are really not at that point now. We have stopped purchasing anything for the home to sell and will eventually start fixing the home up more for selling.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>182,690,257</td>
<td>Saturday, Aug 19th 12:21PM</td>
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| **1. Since we purchased a second home which was brand new, we moved some clothes and household items to leave and use there permanently.**
2. Went through closets, cabinets and garage to throw out the obvious things that we no longer need or want.
3. Had a garage sale with neighbor and sold some items that perhaps someone else could use.
4. Whatever was not sold or other items that we have identified as no longer needing, we donated to charitable organizations.
5. Have tried our best to stop buying more and accumulating "stuff". No more little souvenirs and decorative items for the house when we go on vacations. No major purchases are being considered. Even clothes items - We only buy if we really need it, sale or no sale.
6. Started to identify boxes in attic and garage that will just be given away or thrown out when the time comes when we sell our house. After all, there are many things that are no longer needed if you no do not own a home. There are also the pile of things that are kept because we have the space for it now, so might as well keep it “just in case”. Well, all of that will have to be given away or thrown out down the road.
7. Mentally preparing for when we have to discard some of the old sentimental stuff from our younger days. We don’t look at it very often, and the kids don’t care about it. The more we clear out, the less the children may have to deal with one day.
8. Not sure what to do with all the children's possessions as they have no room for their things in their current living...**
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<tr>
<td>182,689,039</td>
<td>Not sure what to do with all the children's possessions as they have no room for their things in their current living arrangement. We certainly do not want to be putting things in storage that will probably be left untouched.</td>
<td>Saturday, Aug 19th 11:41AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,687,220</td>
<td>Yard sales are not worth the money that you might make on it. I have enjoyed giving away stuff to friends and family who appreciate the items.</td>
<td>Saturday, Aug 19th 10:24AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>182,686,852</td>
<td>My concern is finding a one floor home that is reasonably priced and that the move itself will not be cost prohibitive. MY TOP CONCERN WHEN MOVING OUT OF STATE IS THE TIMING OF SELLING OUR HOME AND FINDING A RENTAL IN OUR NEW TOWN. WE HAVE LAND TO BUILD ON BUT THE RENTAL IS BY FAR THE MOST IMPORTANT! AS I MENTIONED EARLIER I HAD YARD SALES AND DONATED MANY THINGS ALSO! FACEBOOK MARKETPLACE IS A GREAT PLACE TO POST YOUR YARD SALES AND ITEMS YOU WANT TO SELL! IN ADDITION TO MOVING WE ARE BRINGING OUR 20 YEAR OLD SON WITH US TO GO TO SCHOOL IN NORTH CAROLINA! SO THAT HAS BEEN A ISSUE WITH US! HE IS DOING ON-LINE COURSES NOW TO BE READY TO START IN NORTH CAROLINA IN JANUARY!!</td>
<td>Saturday, Aug 19th 9:58AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,685,947</td>
<td>Still in process of downsizing. We sold our house moved into a rental out of state and are looking for a place to buy - we put our stuff in a self storage unit until we find just the right place to buy.</td>
<td>Saturday, Aug 19th 9:32AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,683,382</td>
<td>Cost of new house more than we expected. We should have completed move 2 years ago.</td>
<td>Saturday, Aug 19th 7:40AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,671,164</td>
<td>Retirement is a year away but we plan to:  - Sell nearly all contents of our current home and purchase new contents as practical. Will start this fall  - Move out of FL - too hot, too humid, no appreciable seasonal changes in weather and too many residents from up North with attitudes  - Buy 2 to 3 acres  - Have a nearly maintenance free metal building home built  - Incorporate connections for our RV in new location  - New home will avoid Home Owner Association complications  - New home will be more expensive because our current home was a bank repo and required a lot of updates after purchase  - Concern is to limit new debt payment to a low percentage of retirement income and be really sure you are choosing the right location for retirement.</td>
<td>Friday, Aug 18th 5:49PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,669,385</td>
<td>I live in a very high cost area in southern California. I'm in a 735 square foot condo valued at $400K. I'm lucky that I don't have a collection of &quot;too many things&quot;. When I retire, I'm moving north and away from so many people to a larger home, preferably in the 1200-1300 square foot range. I have already budgeted for furnishings, and will be very careful about collecting too many belongings.</td>
<td>Friday, Aug 18th 4:49PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,667,189</td>
<td>It will cost more in NY - might be $1,000 more a month. But that's where my relatives are.</td>
<td>Friday, Aug 18th 4:44PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,663,627</td>
<td>Totally concerned about having downsizing remorse. We love our home, but it's just too much maintenance and overall cost (big house, big bills syndrome). We're trying to find a location that's too fabulous not to move to. It's extremely hard!</td>
<td>Friday, Aug 18th 2:45PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,663,327</td>
<td>Gave many things to people and friends who needed them including furniture, TV, bedroom set, kitchen dishes, glasses, etc.</td>
<td>Friday, Aug 18th 2:40PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,661,143</td>
<td>My main concern is quality and workmanship of the homes and builders reputations. Have read about complaints from home buyers of new homes who had plumbing issues, window issues, roofing problems and had to fight with the builder to fix the problems, even tho the house warranted.</td>
<td>Friday, Aug 18th 1:23PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,659,796</td>
<td>Will not be able to find a home as nice as ours without paying more, possibly much more than we can sell ours for. Not interested in a mortgage in retirement. Unsure how to sell our home and buy another without renting or being homeless. We have a pet which makes renting difficult but more importantly, if I am moving to a new city/town, I need friends. I want to move to an area where I have already determined is positive for creating friendships.</td>
<td>Friday, Aug 18th 11:12AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,656,881</td>
<td>Getting enough equity from our present home to pay at least 50% of new home.</td>
<td>Friday, Aug 18th</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,655,463</td>
<td>Moving Expense and choosing the right location</td>
<td>Friday, Aug 18th</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,653,730</td>
<td>Sold to consignment shops.</td>
<td>Friday, Aug 18th</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,650,095</td>
<td>Moved from home where children was raised 5 yrs ago. Moved into a larger home in a quiet wooded neighborhood of 10 homes. Sold some items but most items were donated to charity. Reaching retirement age in the next couple of years. This was going to be our retirement home but Illinois taxes continue to increase forcing us to look out of state for retirement living.</td>
<td>Friday, Aug 18th</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,646,208</td>
<td>I haven't put my house on the market yet. We have a few small projects to do in our home first. Finding handymen services for small repairs and folks who will help remove furniture is very important. Check all local charities to see what and how they will take your stuff is important. Garage sales are usually a lot of work and very depressing when people offer you a dollar for things. And you still have half the stuff.</td>
<td>Friday, Aug 18th</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,629,686</td>
<td>Downsizing my home was easy as I either gave my children needed furniture or tools. In some cases, I sold items on ebay and Amazon. Our most serious concerns were: 1. Lower Taxes--State and Local 2. Lower cost of living 3. Avoiding congested traffic area such as Florida. 4. Not complicating our lives with a big home but rather with a functional and safe home for seniors. 5. Being close to quality health clubs.</td>
<td>Thursday, Aug 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,628,917</td>
<td>Won't be able to find a new and modern home in my price range.</td>
<td>Thursday, Aug 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,628,500</td>
<td>Gave downsized stuff to charity.</td>
<td>Thursday, Aug 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,627,012</td>
<td>sold some items, donated others to salvation army and habitat for humanity.</td>
<td>Thursday, Aug 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,625,376</td>
<td>We sold our trailer and boat. We donated furniture to Habitat and Arc. Non-furniture items went to Goodwill.</td>
<td>Thursday, Aug 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,625,163</td>
<td>Tough to part with sentimental items even though you don't need or use them. It became easier to downsize since this was on our dime and not a corporate relocation. Most downsize items were offered to children. If they were not interested we donated to Goodwill. Rest of items ended up in trash can.</td>
<td>Thursday, Aug 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,624,827</td>
<td>I took a scouting trip to the area I wanted to relocate to ahead of time. I also worked early to secure a rental and storage unit before selling my house. It was a good thing I did, because once the house sold, things moved quickly. When I couldn't sleep at night, I'd often get out of bed and pack. Packing materials can be expensive, so spend some time asking for free boxes from local liquor and grocery stores and schools. Once I moved, I donated my packing paper and bubble wrap to local pottery shops. They were happy to get it and I was happy not to throw it away.</td>
<td>Thursday, Aug 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,624,587</td>
<td>How much work do you put in to your house before trying to sell it?</td>
<td>Thursday, Aug 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,624,466</td>
<td>Have already had one great garage sale. Plan on having one more before move. Selling some stuff on E-Bay. Have stopped buying stuff so house doesn't fill up again.</td>
<td>Thursday, Aug 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,623,318</td>
<td>Trying to sell a house in Maine is harder then in states where the prices have recovered from the housing collapse.</td>
<td>Thursday, Aug 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,620,445</td>
<td>I am an online seller with a large inventory of products as well as shipping supplies. Packing and moving that will be difficult. I hope to find a house with an attached garage and a room large enough to hold the inventory and give me somewhere to do the shipping. Otherwise I would like to find a house in Maine in a very safe neighborhood where I can walk my dog and also have grocery stores, entertainment and all amenities nearby.</td>
<td>Thursday, Aug 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>182,620,415</td>
<td>I am an online seller with a large inventory of products as well as shipping supplies. Packing and moving that will be difficult. I hope to find a house with an attached garage and a room large enough to hold the inventory and give me</td>
<td>Thursday, Aug 17th</td>
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somewhere to do the shipping. Otherwise I would like to find a house/townhouse in a very safe neighborhood where I can walk my dog and also have grocery stores, entertainment and

Will sell as much as possible at best available price, donate the rest of unsold but good condition items. Expect to trash much of what doesn’t sell or can be donated.

Donated most of it.

donated a lot to Veterans organizations started boxing up items to take

we gave all stuff to charity and church sales. I got rid of all but two suits.

Definitely wish to move to a more tax friendly and scenic town than Lansing, MI. I expect to have to pay more to buy a home similar to or smaller than the one I currently own, because median home values here are very low compared to most desirable locations in other states.

Need information on companies that will, for a fee, assist in the disposition and sale of multiple unrelated household items. I do not want to be personally involved, such as having a yard sale or selling individual items myself.

We went from a 5,000 sq ft house in Washington state to an RV and one 10x13 storage unit so we had a lot of downsizing to do. Had one garage sale, which did not accomplish much. Sold the majority via Craigslist. The remainder went to local charities. RV’d full-time for a couple of years and found our “place” in Arkansas, 2,400 sq ft lake house. Bought it furnished, down to linens on the beds and kitchen stocked. Took the RV back up to Seattle to get the stuff in the storage unit. Downsized what was left in the Arkansas house, duplicate items or things we would just not use, which went to local charities. Have continued to work on not accumulating more stuff.

Downsize as early as possible, you can’t do it all at once. A little at a time works better and is easier on all concerned.

stop buying stuff you don’t really need anymore, even though it might be a good deal and you say to yourself “I might use this done the road and of course you never did!”

Need to declutter and reduce our belongings but don’t know where to start.

The plan is to move to a warm winter state with a low tax burden, then travel with our Airstream trailer and spend the summers with our kids and grandkids in our current area. Our state tax savings alone should finance our camping travels. Our new home will have room for all of our stuff as is.

We would like to leave CT but have children and grandchildren there. We are thinking about a less expensive state (SC, FL, NC) and maintaining a presence in CT as well. The choice between renting/buying and here/there is challenging, as is finding the right compromise for my wife and me.

We bought our home in an upscale suburb of Hartford almost 30 years ago. The state was still going gangbusters but has deteriorated in many ways. Our area is still quite nice but, absent significant political change, we expect a continued deterioration of the state and local economy, higher taxes and depressed home values. I doubt we could get what we paid for our home in 1988!

we will be selling EVERYTHING except our ART and rebuying EVERYTHING for the new house

Sold my house quicker than I thought and had four weeks to sell or give my stuff away. It was emotionally draining but also a cleansing of sorts. Yard and estate sales, as well as online selling, to people who don’t see the value that you do in your goods. So donating some of my treasures gave me more satisfaction than dealing with people looking to make a buck on my stuff.

I gave some items to grandchildren who are furnishing college dorms and then had a very successful garage sale for other items. Am planning another yard and garden sale to sell the many plants, orchids, pots, etc. as soon as the weather cools a little here in FL. Am searching for a nice town out of state, close to mountains, without a lot of snow, some change of seasons, driving distance to family here in FL…have been unsuccessful so far! After living in FL for 47 years I have had enough of the heat!!! Ready to sell and move as soon as I can.

Donated what we are not keeping and what we did not put in storage. Just keep stuff in the home you don’t mind tosding
Just starting the process of figuring out what to take and what to either sell, donate or leave with the current house if buyer wants. My desire is to move out of state to be closer to family. My current state has a very small market of one level adult communities. The majority of new ones being built are large multi level units. The state of PA is not a retiree friendly state. The nice towns have high real estate taxes with high home owners association fees.

Thursday, Aug 17th

8:20AM

I can't wait to downsize! Hubby will have a hard time

Thursday, Aug 17th

7:49AM

Donated “treasures”! Worried about affordability of housing that will have my current amenities including fencing for my pets.

Thursday, Aug 17th

7:45AM

Stuff downsized: most was donated or sold; some was tossed out. Not looking forward to eventually moving as unsure where we’ll end up.

Thursday, Aug 17th

7:31AM

As one who has moved many times (8) during my work career with the Government I can honestly say that it never gets any easier - unless - you plan ahead. Don’t acquire, purchase, buy, assume or take things you don’t use or don’t need. It’s easier to move from a place with less stuff and makes selling your “old place” easier to stage and makes it more appealing to prospective buyers.

Thursday, Aug 17th

7:18AM

- How to successfully move out of state.
- Sell first or buy first?
- What to do with the excess stuff from downsizing.
- Managing the sale, move and furnishing the new house out of state.

Thursday, Aug 17th

7:19AM

We have donated lots of stuff to charity. Also have a child in college and lots of stuff went to furnish their apartment.

Thursday, Aug 17th

7:20AM

Scheduling periodic pickups by AmVets and have ongoing goal of filling trash/recycling bins every week. Easier to do in small doses.

Thursday, Aug 17th

7:13AM

We have been in our home for 40 years. We love the neighborhood and will miss our friends. We live in NJ and the taxes are a major expense. It will be difficult to move to a new state and start all over again in an area we are unfamiliar with.

Thursday, Aug 17th

6:48AM

As one who has moved many times (8) during my work career with the Government I can honestly say that it never gets any easier - unless - you plan ahead. Don’t acquire, purchase, buy, assume or take things you don’t use or don’t need. It’s easier to move from a place with less stuff and makes selling your “old place” easier to stage and makes it more appealing to prospective buyers.

Thursday, Aug 17th

7:18AM

No one wants to move into a house where they can’t envision their own things in there.

Thursday, Aug 17th

7:19AM

We have donated lots of stuff to charity. Also have a child in college and lots of stuff went to furnish their apartment.

Thursday, Aug 17th

7:20AM

Scheduling periodic pickups by AmVets and have ongoing goal of filling trash/recycling bins every week. Easier to do in small doses.

Thursday, Aug 17th

7:13AM

Being single I had to downsize primarily on my own, so it was very difficult. I had accumulated years of “treasures” and parting with some of them was difficult. I donated a lot of items to Goodwill and Salvation Army.

Research real estate agents to make sure you pick the right one for your situation and area you live in. Also, I would not advise moving out of your home before you sell it, unless you absolutely have to and unless you are absolutely sure it will not be on the market more than 6 months.

Thursday, Aug 17th

7:07AM

donation to Salvation Army, Goodwill, resale places...a few ‘good’ things will go to antique dealers, stuff I can’t without will move with me...

Thursday, Aug 17th

7:06AM

We have been in our home for 40 years. We love the neighborhood and will miss our friends. We live in NJ and the taxes are a major expense. It will be difficult to move to a new state and start all over again in an area we are unfamiliar with.

Thursday, Aug 17th

6:48AM

We threw out ~1/4, sold ~1/4, gave away ~1/4, and kept the rest. Start slowly but steadily and you’ll pick up momentum. Realize that the younger folks don’t treasure what you consider “valuables”. Don’t guilt trip them into taking stuff they do not want.

Thursday, Aug 17th

6:27AM

trying to sell via consignment shop and rest given to charity.

Thursday, Aug 17th

6:07AM

No one wants or needs our stuff. Charity or arash is final destination.

Thursday, Aug 17th

5:48AM

Sold home and major contents (furniture) to new owners. Gave large truck load of housewares to salvation army. Gave plants to friends. Kept a box of photos I have yet to scan to the cloud. Sold home for full price.

Thursday, Aug 17th

5:00AM
Regarding downsizing, we followed a relatively simple rule: If you haven’t used, worn, touched, or handled your “stuff” (including extra space), you probably don’t need it. Donating serviceable items to charities helps others and yourself (tax deductible).

Regarding moving, while your current home may hold a lot or memories, those memories are transportable (they go wherever you do). I understand that we live in very materialistic culture, but many of the “things” that we hang on to are not really that important. Cherish the memories, pick out the important few mementos, relish the present and prepare for your future.

Concerns: Will family come visit if we move away? Will I be able to make friends in a new area?

Top concern. Moving to LA to be near grand. No friends there. Love my present location (DC). LA very expensive. Will sell home and rent in LA

Concern with process of selling home what will I have left where to put the left over so it can grow etc where to go

Wish we had started the process earlier.
We are DEFINITELY going to downsize to a single story home that requires less maintenance. Cost is a factor but want to concentrate more on our leisure time rather than the maintenance issues of a large home. A condominium or

A lot of work and more time needed to downsize. Difficult to get of things. Donating seems to be the only way to dispense of valuables like sterling silver, china and good furniture. There seems to be no value in your treasures.

I gave a lot of things to Goodwill, sold a lot of things really cheaply but to people who could use them (old music books and things). It is easy to get rid of things now, my husband is worse so I do most of it and just don't tell him what I got rid of! We plan to live here 1-2 more years, retire after this year and then take our time deciding where we will end up at. We might stay in state or move - but think we will rent where ever we choose to be sure we love it. Looking forward to this being my last year to teach!

I live in Southern California but am interested in moving to a lower cost location. However, our plan is to rent out our home and rent in the new location for awhile to test the waters and see if we can handle the weather and new location.

Top one is Doctors and hospitals; finding the right ones in a new area. Near an airport since all of our children are out of state. Budgeting for the move. Having shopping, restaurants, entertainment nearby. How will our adult family deal with us moving. They all grew-up in current house making new friends and enough things to keep us busy

Biggest concern is learning of all the financial aspects of moving and buying in another state - taxes, utilities, health care options, etc. Downsizing to a smaller place will force the issue of reducing possessions, that should not be an issue.

My main concern is that I have no "ideal" location in mind to spend the next 60 or so years of my life. I live alone now, since my wife died three years ago, and want to go somewhere with a nice climate and friendly people! Simple!

I will buy a pull camper and live in it until I get my inheritance. I will do some traveling in the camper to look for a home outside the US via the internet. I am not sure how much I will get since my two brothers conspired to deprive me and a few other beneficiaries out of a $33,000,000,000 estate. At this moment, the IRS is auditing both brothers who were responsible for probating the will, but decided to deprive the beneficiaries out of their inheritance. I would expect along with the 3.3 million I was to inherit, there will be interest that will half to be included.

We donated most of our "stuff" and traded furniture, garden equipment, etc. for labor from contractors to renovate our Ca. home. Moving expenses are just far to expensive to ship.

It will take a plan and continual effort to reduce the things we have acquired over the years. We have already purchased a house in FL to move to in 2019 and are renting it now. We are hopeful the housing market will remain strong in CA until we sell. We will pay the mortgage on the house in FL and use the remaining equity for a few years until I start SS. We hope to take inventory and sell or give away anything we will not need in our new home. But that will take some time.

Sorting of "stuff" was hard. Things passed down from my mother/grandmother were reboxed and given to my children who only took what they can use, I only kept what I can use now and the rest was sold to antique shops/second hand stores or donated.

We probably could've made some money by selling it in a yard sale or on craigslist. We just went and gave it all to charity. Less work that way. The biggest job was getting the house ready to sell after living there for 30 years.

My children don't want my books, which makes me very sad. My books are the heritage I'd always expected to share and pass on. There aren't many places to sell used books, except for store credit, and I frankly need cash, and fewer books.

We are DEFINITELY going to downsize to a single story home that requires less maintenance. Cost is a factor but want to concentrate more on our leisure time rather than the maintenance issues of a large home. A condominium or

It is easy to get rid of things now, my husband is worse so I do most of it and just don't tell him what I got rid of! We plan to live here 1-2 more years, retire after this year and then take our time deciding where we will end up at. We might stay in state or move - but think we will rent where ever we choose to be sure we love it. Looking forward to this being my last year to teach!
Our biggest issue is the area of the country where we want to move. A condominium or retirement community where maintenance is included in monthly fees is a strong possibility.

Parting with "stuff" and figuring out what's most important to keep. Try to make some extra cash by selling "stuff".

Did some cleaning out by giving away and donating to thrift stores. Concern about finding a neighborhood where we are as comfortable with friends, neighbors and healthcare.

I stay here until my 94-year old mother goes. After that, my income drops drastically. It is slightly cheaper to remain in my house (except for increasing repairs needed on a almost 50-year old house), but I am not within bus service or walking distance of anything. If I move, I need to do it soon, because I've seen what happens to those living alone who move after they are past 75 or so—it's so hard to make new friends, get to know a new area, etc., especially if you are.

Donated all items downsized to Habitat for Humanity and/or Salvation Army, Goodwill, etc.

Since we want to move out of state, we want to make sure that we are content in a new area. We are thinking of renting first before we buy.

Tough to get rid of kids memories, even though they mean nothing to them, they are collecting the ones from their children.

Selling on line, giving away, and using an estate service. All Baby Boomers are selling similar stuff so there is little demand for what we have. Harder to get cash for belongings than I thought it would be. Not worth it to collect or preserve old things.

I have thrown out things, digitized photographs, donated to museums, given some items to other family members, and sold some things on eBay.

Children and grandchildren in 4 different states
2nd marriage
Where to go???
He wants to go where his grandchildren reside and I'm just opposite

I don't know what to get rid of because I don't know what I will need in my next house. My kids may not want it now but they may want it later. I like stuff.

Mainly our adult kids things. Some are an obvious trash but lots may have worth for this kids. Slowly packing them up and giving them to the kids. They can trash, keep or sell as they see fit. They are all living on their own since last year. I have seen my son work for an hour sorting lego that were his vs his sisters.

I don't know what our specific plans for downsizing are at this time but I'm concerned about what furniture we keep and what furniture we do away with. We might donate furniture (and clothing) or we might try to sell it. All up in the air right now.

My husband and I moved from a 4200 sq ft house in Ohio into a 1650 sq ft home in Florida. We sold some furniture, rugs and other items to the new homeowners. We also gave some items to family members, sold a lot of household goods to an auction house, and donated clothing and other items. Finally, we made numerous trips to the county waste and recycling centers. Overall, we got rid of approximately 75% of our belongings. It felt great! The only thing I regret giving away was my cast iron skillet - but I bought a new one!
We should have had Goodwill (et al.) come to our house and pickup stuff, instead we mad daily trips to Goodwill. It wasn't worth the pain of trying to sell our stuff on Craig's List or via garage sales so we just gave it away.

I have done a lot of comparison shopping for a retirement place. I have evaluated Cost of Living, Matching my retirement desires, being near family and friends, being somewhere family and friends will visit, and being able to have the support services needed as we age. It has been a difficult evaluation process. I have still not selected a 'Best Place' for us....

We, mostly my husband, has been selling off things he doesn't want to move. We've given some things away and I have donated some things. We still have a lot left to go through, though. I am supposed to be going through photos and photo albums, but I haven't started yet - it is a little overwhelming.

We look forward to relocating to an area of the country with great weather and beautiful scenery. We recognize that houses there are more expensive than those here in the Midwest, but we feel that the trade-off is worth it.

Actually, I originally downsized but didn't like the smaller quarters so have upsized from what I lived in for 30 years prior to retiring!

Also ..., I knew exactly where retirement would be having loved my [new] area since I was 17. I cannot comprehend moving to a place you've never spent appreciable time in. If you've been there (a lot ... and in ALL seasons I might suggest) then go ahead and move!

Gave a lot to charity for tax write off

Repairing home for sale, what's the market like? Will we get decent value out of the home? No concerns yet about how to move, we already own the land at our retirement location. Some trepidation about building a new home, contractor problems mostly.

I have been a collector my entire life, but a very organized one. My "extra" time from retirement is being spent slowly purging the items we no longer "need". Our kids don't seem the least bit interested in items we hold in high regard.

Concern with selling home.

Toured several states looking for Independent Living. At this time of our lives we felt that was the next step of progression. Most IL are apartment style. That did not suit us at all. We found one in St. George UT that is Cottage style ... single story, attached to one other unit, attached garage. We have now been in it for a month and love it ... 3 meals a day, cleaning service weekly, and activities galore. Put the PA house on the market in May and sold it within a month. Since these units are 1000 square feet we had to downsize from a house with a basement. Took 3 loads to local auction and held 3 garage sales. What we brought with us is still lining the garage wall and inside wall. Its like putting a jigsaw puzzle together...one piece at a time. I am looking at it now and wondering why we still brought so much stuff with us. This 2 bedroom unit is costing us $3800/month, steep but financially I believe we can handle it for our remaining years. We just didn't want the hassle of owning a home any more in a cold climate.

Our experience is the opposite of most, I guess. We live in a condo in a large city. Downsizing isn't necessary as we don't have a lot of furniture and "stuff" in general. As we expect to move to a smaller city/town but purchase a larger single family home, we will need to purchase new furniture and other household items (lawn mower and yard tools, furniture to fill in new rooms, linens, etc.). While we will make a lot of money from the sale of our condo, we will likely redecorate our
I have updating my home in anticipation of moving at some point in my retirement. A room by room evaluation will be done. I will donate items, give items to my nieces and try to sell a few things that I probably won’t have space for in an apartment. My physical problems are making it difficult for me to take care of the yard and house.

Getting a good price for our house and finding one that we really like out of state. Deciding whether or not to live in a 55+ community. Being able to live a comfortable life in retirement without a steady paycheck considering the uncertainty of even the best investments. While we are both in very good health now it is difficult to predict what healthcare will cost us in the future even though we have good insurance and long-term care insurance. Right now I am putting all these concerns aside on a day-to-day basis and enjoying life!

Changing locations from the west to east coast (family located there) will be HUGE. This will give us a smaller, one story home, and additional retirement funds. My BIGGEST concern is finding a location we both LOVE.

Surprised house prices have increased so much over the last 2 years. Having to choose another location in another state where we can afford to live.

We donated our things to a local Thrift shop; our children don't want anything. Selling my home at the time that I retire and purchase a home in another state. I'm concerned that my house may take time to sell which will delay my retirement. On the other hand, if it sells too soon, where do I live? And of course will I be able to find that I am accustomed to but less costly.

We have had one yardsale, but it wasn't too successful. Are donating a lot of furniture, housewares, clothes, and books. We may put some items in storage. The grand piano is the hardest to decide what to do with it.

We've started the downsizing process, and have donated or gave away unwanted items. Our home is currently for sale, but the market is weak in our area. We plan to buy a townhouse within our home state, but to relocate to within about a half hour from our children and grandchildren (currently four hours away). We are looking for an HOA that will take care of the yard, driveway, and exterior maintenance, since we spend winters in Arizona.

We sold or gave away a lot of my stuff with more to follow. I give to charity, sell on Ebay and have yard sales. Before moving I plan to have a moving sale where I'll sell pretty much everything that isn't nailed down. I don't want to pack, move and unpack numerous boxes.

Concerns about moving include finding the place that meets our needs and where will we fit in. We are planning to move from an expensive state to a more affordable one but weather and ability to enjoy the activities we love is a concern.

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Will be a lot of work but worth the effort. Selling as much as possible on Craig's list, locally, and flea markets.
What I didn't sell I donated to the Salvation Army and Freedom Works. Also gave all pet items to a local shelter. I downsized even more as I was unpacking and found items I really didn't need and donated all of them to the local Habitat for humanity restore.

Much of the items went to Habitat for Humanity, Special Olympics, church (organ), and various other charities... no garage sale.

We have already done one downsizing and sold our home. We gave away, donated, sold or threw away things. We moved temporarily to San Diego for ill parents, before we move to our final, as yet unknown, destination. We will do another purge before we move again. We still have too much stuff!

We donated a lot of things to local charities like Habitat for Humanity, Houston Furniture Bank, Goodwill. No luck in selling things or garage sales.

We made our excess furniture and other items from our attic available for free to people in our neighborhood (if the could handle the “shipping”). They were delighted to pick it up and it gave a lot of our old stuff a new home! It was gratifying to see their excitement and it was liberating to reduce our attic space.

We had lots of "treasures" that were stashed in our large basement. Our local non-profits benefited greatly, as they received anything we couldn't sell. We also had to simply throw away a lot of things as well. We just had to realize that we had kept all of this stuff for purely emotional reasons, but for no rational reason.

A place that takes our dog. We will give some furniture to our children. If not close by we will have to make new friends.

Plan on moving cross-country, so cost is a major concern. Would be nice if we could just have a yard sale, then pick up and go.

Moving is hard. I left a home I lived in for 32 years. I am in a apartment while our new home is being built in Arizona. The apartment life is more difficult combining 2 households into one, no room. Looking forward to the move to AZ in 6 or 7 months. I have more stuff to get rid of but did get rid of three truck loads of things from the house along with 90% of the furniture. Lots of stuff in the garbage. A further reduction will take place over the next 7 months in preparation of the move to AZ.

We want a house in the area where we can have someone help with outside maintenance and plenty of storage. We still want some extra room for guests in the house and up to date modern kitchen and bathrooms. We are still active but don't want to have as much care to manage as we want to travel more but still keep our boat.

Finding a smaller place to live for fair market value.

Hard to decide where we will enjoy living with the services we enjoy while being an area that will be easy to drive around in.

Money is always the top concern... all the things downsized are just that... things with no sentimental value. The rest will go when they are no longer needed for yard work and the maintenance of a home and yard... I plan on going to a place within my state, that has plenty of free or cheap activities, healthcare, shopping and restaurants... closely, I don't want to have to drive so far to get to these things... I live in an expensive state but not willing to move to a less attractive state to save money...

I continue to clean out rooms and get rid of stuff via garage sales, goodwill etc.

I plan to sell or give away the pieces of furniture that I don't absolutely have to have, and to edit all my other belongings. When I get to my next destination, which will be in another state, I want everything in my house to either have a use and serve a purpose, or to have real meaning for me. I don't want a house filled with junk that I'll never use or look at again. I would rather think that such items are being enjoyed by someone else than taking up space in my next home.

Top concern is dealing with a moving company. Have read about the problems others have had, such as arriving late, adding additional charges and then refusing to make delivery until paid, and damaged goods.
| 182,578,704 | Haven't done so yet. Biggest concern is determining where to move.... | Wednesday, Aug 16th | 3:30PM |
| 182,578,669 | Concern that selling CA real estate will be a mistake as appreciation will be higher than in AZ or NV. | Wednesday, Aug 16th | 3:28PM |
| 182,578,543 | We have contributed most to Good Will, sold some. | Wednesday, Aug 16th | 3:24PM |
| 182,578,485 | I am downsizing my stuff but will get a larger home when I move. I want bigger closets, kitchen and laundry. I just don't want to feel overwhelmed by stuff. Nor do I want to pay to move stuff I will not need or use. I moved into my current home right after my mother passed away and have been taking time to organize and get rid of stuff. My current house was purchased to enhance my funds as the value of this house is going up faster than the area I am planning to move to. | Wednesday, Aug 16th | 3:22PM |
| 182,578,484 | Furniture was donated to new immigrant family. Car full of books donated to library. So, feel pretty good about "culling." Good people/places to donate to and NO landfill | Wednesday, Aug 16th | 3:24PM |
| 182,578,473 | Slowly getting rid of junk and avoiding buying more | Wednesday, Aug 16th | 3:22PM |
| 182,578,417 | We threw out and gave away items while downsizing, but kept far more than we should have. Some things we kept thinking we would use them in our new house but are finding that we don't need them. | Wednesday, Aug 16th | 3:20PM |
| 182,578,325 | You downsized as much as you can, and have only the basic needs, not "wants." | Wednesday, Aug 16th | 3:16PM |
| 182,578,262 | Had 2 yard sales and gave rest to Salvation Army. It was just stuff my husband and I bought at yard sales to fill our retirement home. We were more into playing golf and traveling so "things" didn't mean anything. The nice thing about retirement was to be free of possessions. As I was widowed it was a lot of work but the house sold right away so had to get it done quick and with help from friends got the house emptied. Loaded up the car and drove from California to Ohio in 4 days. At 85 I enjoy living with son and having family around. Will look for places to spend the cold months so who knows where I will land. Life has been a wonderful adventure. I hope young people won't wait too long to retire. Some of the nice things about retirement was to be free of possessions. As I was widowed it was a lot of work but the house sold right away so had to get it done quick and with help from friends got the house emptied. Loaded up the car and drove from California to Ohio in 4 days. At 85 I enjoy living with son and having family around. Will look for places to spend the cold months so who knows where I will land. Life has been a wonderful adventure. I hope young people won't wait too long to retire. | Wednesday, Aug 16th | 2:51PM |
| 182,578,198 | Haven't moved yet and not sure when, but we have started to downsize by donating items we haven't used in six months or more. The donations are helping to reduce income taxes. | Wednesday, Aug 16th | 3:11PM |
| 182,578,033 | Have not really started yet. Plan to donate, trash, give away the things I no longer want or need. | Wednesday, Aug 16th | 3:07PM |
| 182,577,973 | I moved from the Northeast and found it very difficult to sell even items in excellent shape. Furniture I sold was at a very discounted rate and I ended up giving away to charity or friends things I could not sell. The distance I was moving prevented me from shipping big items. Be sure to weigh the desire and cost of shipping versus buying new. I also found that it was impossible to sell some artwork that I had acquired over time. These were items worth several hundred or a few thousand dollars. I ended up giving some to a retirement home so others could enjoy them. Take what is meaningful but you will need to cut the cord on some things. They brought me joy during the time I had them and I hope they will bring joy to others. | Wednesday, Aug 16th | 2:49PM |
| 182,577,902 | We didn't downsize. | Wednesday, Aug 16th | 2:57PM |
| 182,577,710 | We tried to get money for the things we could and we donated the rest. We moved more than we should have because we could just not get in the mindset to "let go". We paid to move stuff we later gave away or sold and a consequence of not getting into the right mindset. It is hard to let go of some things, but as you have heard before, you can't ultimately take it with you. | Wednesday, Aug 16th | 2:51PM |
| 182,577,657 | Want to eliminate most of the chores and maintenance involved in old home. Hope to move to a lower-tax environment and away from a tragically "Blue" state, with a hopeless financial and governmental history and future. Would like to stay in a similar environment, as far as weather is concerned. Definitely looking at a 55+ community. Will be moving to a slightly smaller home (current one approx 2000 sq feet) or same size, but much smaller footprint (currently on 2/3 of acre). | Wednesday, Aug 16th | 2:54PM |
| 182,577,604 | Have not decided where to move!! Have lived in California, and the state is getting so crowded and the cost of living and the taxes keep going up! Will decide whether to rent for a while to see if we like another state. Will definitely stay in the West. Hardest part is moving away from our beautiful beach community to someplace inland. We have sacrificed size to live a block from the ocean, so downsizing isn't as much of a concern. I have slowly been cleaning out "stuff", going through... | Wednesday, Aug 16th | 2:44PM |
papers, etc.
Looking for the great weather Southern California has in another state!! Help us with that.

Wednesday, Aug 16th
2:50PM

182,577,587
Donated stuff to charity.

Wednesday, Aug 16th
2:49PM

182,577,599
We continue to struggle with downsizing as we are just starting. We’re taking care of the easy stuff first...build momentum. We continue to look for property to build on-out of state. Still have a few years before it becomes the reality of our decision making.

Wednesday, Aug 16th
2:36PM

182,577,389
We are giving most to charity or family we have not moved yet

Wednesday, Aug 16th
2:33PM

182,577,259
1. Cost of move. 2. Cost to downsize. 3. Physical limitations at our age. 4. Mental situation of making a move at our age.

Wednesday, Aug 16th
2:27PM

182,577,195
We got everything into an 8x8x16 size POD and sold the larger pieces of furniture. We figured we could purchase smaller sized furniture as needed once we move into our downsized house. We bought in Portland which has a 26% lower cost of living from Northern California and will help to stretch our retirement dollars. It feels wonderful to be free of so much “stuff.” We are planning to use the profits from selling our house to live in France for at least 2 years as well as Portland.

Wednesday, Aug 16th
2:30PM

182,577,097
Throwing away memories was tough... learned not to be a collector.

Wednesday, Aug 16th
2:20PM

182,577,078
We decided to donate most items to 2 charities. We will try to sell some larger items that are in excellent shape. We are moving cross country and want to take as little as possible

Wednesday, Aug 16th
2:17PM

182,577,002
Got kids to come back and go through their old belongings. Will give away or sell remaining things we don’t want.

Wednesday, Aug 16th
2:11PM

182,576,986
We are working towards making sure that NOTHING will be in storage. Maybe one room set aside to hold seasonal items, but otherwise we want to get everything narrowed down to the very best items and those that we absolutely love.

Wednesday, Aug 16th
2:09PM

182,576,930
Want to stay in our family home but GOP driving us to leave US to retire . If they kill Obamacare we are gone

Wednesday, Aug 16th
2:08PM

182,576,865
We downsized home once. Now looking to do so again to better downsize mortgage. Hope to add a 2nd home in another state that we will use part of year and rent the other part.

Wednesday, Aug 16th
2:07PM

182,576,767
Had several garage sales, put some items on consignment, sold big items on Craigslist, donated what was left after garage sale. Gave away special items to loved ones. Donated many boxes of books (I use the library instead). Still need to do more downsizing on my end—but the initial downsizing feels good!

Wednesday, Aug 16th
2:05PM

182,576,724
It took much longer to downsize than we expected. We took a year and still moved too much to our new home in FL (and no basement!). We had an estate sale, garage sales, sold on Craigslist, and donated loads. Give yourself a generous time cushion for downsizing! Our advice is to sell or donate up North before moving South - we paid to have things moved that didn’t fit our new house style or lifestyle then found they didn’t sell like in our larger metro area up North. Move fewer things and enjoy furnishing your new place to fit your new, “lighter” and more casual lifestyle!

Wednesday, Aug 16th
2:04PM

182,576,625
It is a lot of work. I wouldn’t want to make a habit of doing this but I also admire those who can. We did our own packing to save money.

Wednesday, Aug 16th
2:01PM

182,576,570
Most shippable items with value are easy to sell. Giving away piano is tough! Plan to refurbish after move, so easy to part with everything.
I donated. Do not want to deal with hassle of sales (garage, consignment, etc.) Also cannot haul stuff anymore so the services that come to one's home are invaluable. Will still be donating further and also just recycling and tossing out "stuff."

Wednesday, Aug 16th 2:14PM

Finding a family member willing to be the keeper of family history & heirlooms. Physically performing the downsizing & finding time while still working full time & commuting (expect to retire in 1 year!).

Wednesday, Aug 16th 2:07PM

Some items were sold at yard sales or consignment. Some were donated. Some were gifted to friends.

Wednesday, Aug 16th 2:10PM

Finding the "right" Community to retire too, in the right Geographical location. Finding the right fit between Singles & Couples where I can fit in on both sides.

Wednesday, Aug 16th 2:11PM

When we start the downsizing project, I anticipate 3 piles at first: Toss, keep, donate. One we get to keep and donate, we will then downsize again, with toss, keep and donate. I hope that we only need to do this 2X.

Wednesday, Aug 16th 2:11PM

Because I live in Alaska away from every State in the Union, I getting rid of nearly everything. I am taking advantage of disposing thru non-profits, used bookstores, Botanical gardens, giving away boys' toys & sports gear, BSA, and hauling to the landfill. I have'nt got to the big furnishings yet. So, I will let you know how in next survey that was done to reduce expensive long-distance moving costs. :-)

Wednesday, Aug 16th 2:04PM

Extra stuff went to charity with a small amount to consignment store. Personal stuff is harder...either keep or toss, and tossing is tough. Get outside unbiased guidance from relatives and friends.

Wednesday, Aug 16th 2:07PM

I would have charities haul away as much as possible and fill a dumpster with the rest. My wife.... No! Therein lies the "challenge!"

Wednesday, Aug 16th 2:03PM

Donated or sold for 25-30 cents on the dollar

Wednesday, Aug 16th 1:56PM

We built the home we expected to (and did) retire in about 15 years before our planned retirement (11 years before actual) and had it paid off which made retirement feasible. Mostly our home has worked out very well since we included many access options including being able to primarily live on one main level. With age (now at 69), we would like less size/maintenance and a true single level. Options we included in the home were a MIL apt and our extra top level suite (with view) to potentially rent for augmented income if needed. That extra income is now not expected to be needed and our privacy is more important. So the house is bigger than needed, yet still very livable. We are 20-30 minutes from virtually everything and have been very happy here but we now think that by age 75-80 we may want to be closer to

Wednesday, Aug 16th 1:30PM

Want one floor condo

Wednesday, Aug 16th 2:01PM

I used Craig's list for some, but most of it went to charities. Even had salvation army come and get a very good extra bed, bureau, and sofas. I did have to get a 10x10 storage unit for my small jeep camp trailer. No space at new Del Webb community. Still downsizing.

Wednesday, Aug 16th 1:57PM

The hassle of down sizing in general.

Wednesday, Aug 16th 1:59PM

Gave it all away, not worth the trouble of trying to sell and your kids don't want it.

Wednesday, Aug 16th 1:59PM

Garage sales, donations, gave away.

Wednesday, Aug 16th 1:55PM

Gave stuff away to friends and charities

Wednesday, Aug 16th 1:52PM

Will downsize to a 5th wheel.

Wednesday, Aug 16th 1:51PM

Main concern is degree of happiness with new location. Would hate to have to repeat this experiment...

Wednesday, Aug 16th 1:42PM
Selling our home was stressful as the first offer fell through and we had to move into an apartment in the interim. We had a garage sale and also donated many items when we downsized.

May possible sell furniture with home, otherwise will have a tag sale done professionally.

Potential change of friends

top concern - the logistics of the move! What choice is best: professional moving company, POD or similar, U-Haul or similar. In any case, I will need to drive to relocate because I have two pets and both the airlines and the trains restrict you to one pet per passenger.

stuff downsized: donated clothing to Big Sisters, gave away many small household items, donated several boxes of books to the library, plan to sell excess furniture and second car (not running).

another concern: landscaping to sell home - realtors advise ripping out all the mature shrubs (many over 50 years old including gorgeous mountain laurels, azaleas, rhododendrons, and a dogwood tree). They say all potential buyers are

Our home value hasn't recovered from the last housing crash. I am concerned we will have another before we sell which could be a large negative impact on what type of house we can buy for our retirement house.

Will just sell misc items and throw way a lot of odds and ends. Get in my car and move to one of our other homes that are already livable. I have used my other homes for years already as second and third homes.

Hard to let go after losing a spouse. Thought I would be ready to move right away. Definitely not true. It's a huge decision and I fear buyer's remorse.

Our home value hasn't recovered from the last housing crash. I am concerned we will have another before we sell which could be a large negative impact on what type of house we can buy for our retirement house.

We gave away stuff, sold stuff on Craigslist and had a garage sale, then took stuff to goodwill

The downsizing process must be agreed upon before beginning to ‘sort items.’ What one can let go of may be an absolute treasure to the other. We found that having a toss pile, donation pile, post on line pile, and keep pile helps.

The cost of a move is a concern. Even after downsizing, it's a lot of "stuff" to haul out of state.

Moving always allows for downsizing, a necessity as you get older I'm convinced. We certainly will benefit from that when the time comes. Some may pass on things to their children or siblings, but we may not have all that much of real significance to pass on.

sold or gave away almost all of 'stuff' downsized.

Salvation Army is my chief method for downsizing. No yard sales, no ebay, no craigslist. I'll just take the tax right-off.

Would prefer to stay in the area where we currently live (northern Virginia, near DC), but when we see that we can get 2x the house for 1/2 the cost by moving outside the DC-commuting area, we are strongly considering a college town in far western Virginia. Concern that moving to such a location means losing a lot of diversity -- in neighbors, in cuisine, in healthcare options -- and losing easy access to museums, airports, public transportation, etc.

We sold some on Offer Up and Let Go before having a moving sale. We gave some to a neighbor about to be married.

Most of the stuff we downsized was donated, some was sold and some was given to friends or family who expressed an interest. The larger items which will not come with us (mostly furniture) will be sold if possible. If not sold, will be donated. Our concern is that we will find a place that will be comfortable, but will not use up all our money. Moving will be tough at our age, we have no children who can help. We are planning on taking as little as possible to our new home. Hopefully once we move we will be able to keep our possessions in check.
The last time we moved - 13 years ago - the furniture from our old house just didn't work in the new house. I did not expect that. We ended up selling/giving away many items after we moved. This time I would rather get rid of stuff and buy for the new space when we get there!

Excess “stuff” was either distributed to children or discarded. Some “stuff” survived the move.

I am moving from the East Coast to the West while downsizing I found that I had to limit my keepsakes to photos and small items. Shipping and/or mailing items is an expensive process. I was fortunate in that I sold my home to a friend who is also a contractor.

I donated most downsized item to a relatives garage sale. Only struggle is with my daughters stuff from her childhood etc. She doesn't have room for it.

donate

We're going to leave the state where we live currently to a much lower tax state. This matters to us. Now it's the work to prepare our home for sale and find a similarly priced house in the new state. Lots of downsizing to do. Lots of home fixes to do. Lots to do, but we expect the reward for all that work to be more freedom and more money to spend during retirement.

Our biggest problem is my husband and I have very different concepts about downsizing and retirement!!! I would be happy in a townhome or villa with maintenance done, my husband still wants a yard and garden.

Housing is a huge concern for me. I am not prepared for retirement and I am 61 years old. I have a home that is only 14 years old but I live in a state that I don't want to retire in for lots of reasons. I believe my quality of life would be horrible if I stayed in my current location. Right now not sure where else I want to live that has a lower cost of living. Have concerned moving out of the country.

Most was donated to charity resulting in some sizable tax deductions. It is worth keeping track of what went where. We found the valuations contained in TurboTax useful.

I've been giving books to our local library and donating items no longer needed to the Salvation Army.

My biggest concern is where to move to And how to make friends in the new location.

Start cleaning out a year before, get a dumpster,give items away, and have a moving sell. We moved out of state and instead of paying for a storage unit we sold all our furniture. We stored some things at are kids homes,while our home was being built. Connecticut is so expensive to live there. We moved to South Carolina. Best thing we've ever did.

Main concern: will staying in current home be better financially for my children when I die?

Top concern, we moved out of state and bought a home. My heart and common sense said to move and rent to make sure we liked the new location. The wife wanted to buy a house in the new location. The new location is great except for the hottest June in 130 years.

We found that there are always people who will take things that we don't need or want anymore. We sold some things, donated others and advertised “free” on Craigslist or put on the road with a free sign. It’s a wonderful feeling knowing that not only are we helping the environment by keeping things out of the landfill but people are thrilled with getting things they can really use. Also, don’t use this as an opportunity to donate things that are completely useless or unusable. It’s a drain on charities and insults people.

nice home

I have been going through my boxes in my basement. My son just bought a house and I was able to give him all of his boxes from his childhood and mementos. My daughter on the other hand has not bought a house (still rents) and therefore I'm the storage unit for her! lol. My daughter lives in Atlanta and my son lives in Austin. We live in Illinois (you did not need to insert negative comment—we know) I would like to try renting for a few months in both cities without selling my home. I love our home (in a lake community)and would like to try out different places. I still have to work 4 more years until my husband is on Medicare and we are not making outrageous monthly health insurance payments! Enjoy hearing all the tips about places to live. Keep up the good work, Jana
Enjoy hearing all the tips about places to live. Keep up the good work. Jana

May keep existing home and rent in other areas.

Wednesday, Aug 16th 1:24PM

Much of the stuff we will not need will be given to family or donated to charity. The biggest concern is to downsize to a smaller home with less maintenance, but be 100% sure we move to an affluent area with little crime and all the conveniences we need to be comfortable and enjoy our late 50's, 60's and beyond.

Wednesday, Aug 16th 1:20PM

Timing of selling and buying

Wednesday, Aug 16th 1:21PM

You can keep, distribute amongst family members, donate or try to sell the furniture and other belongs. This does not happen overnight, it takes time - starting early is the key. Months to even perhaps 1 - 2 years earlier than your retirement date. Serious planning is needed, please do not ignore it.

Wednesday, Aug 16th 10:44AM

Gave it to various charities, friends, family, neighbors. Hate garage sales.

Wednesday, Aug 16th 9:41AM

Sold some furniture, had a garage sale, and donated other items that I didn't want to move to the new home. The cost of moving a thousand plus miles is expensive and it something I want to do more than once. Plus it's a lot of work packing and moving, which I see as a negative of renting.

Tuesday, Aug 15th 8:30PM

1. I need to get my 2 adult children to take their stuff.
2. I need to find a smaller, lower maintenance home.
3. My goal is to move a little closer to my children. I am a widow and have no other family nearby.
4. I feel the pressure of making new friends/support groups when I move. There have been a lot of articles lately about how loneliness has huge effects on health, both mental and physical. It's a bigger health risk than smoking or obesity.
5. I plan to have a yard sale and donate the things I don't sell. I donate clothing regularly, but I know there's a lot more to weed out.

Tuesday, Aug 15th 6:17PM

As mentioned above, downsizing is a much, much bigger task than one may think, but it needs to at or near the top of any list. What to do with it all? I'm tempted to just say "whatever you can", but that's something of a cop-out. I won't recount the agony of parting with (fill in the blank) -- there's enough discussion in that regard already. Your mileage may vary:

-- Discard anything that's even marginally serviceable: old clothes and such. Exception: metallic objects.
-- Give away to relatives/children, grandchildren -- best choice for mementos.
-- Garage Sales (not a good choice in my neck of the woods -- far enough out in the boonies that "two day" shipping never takes less than three days, no a lot of customers)
-- Ebay/Craigslist and the like; for collectibles, sports memorabilia, well, just about anything. Potentially high ticket collectibles, and what to do with them is not something I'm equipped to advise on.
-- Charitable donations to the VA (books) Goodwill, Salvation Army, local homeless shelters, etc.
-- Digitize, digitize, digitize! Invest in a document scanner. Most of them will do photos, as well. For some items, though, you'll still need a "flat bed" scanner -- most multi function printers do this.
-- Scrap metal: unserviceable tools, cookware, curtain rods, computer cases, old appliances, old wires and cables, etc.

And once you're done with all that, start over at the top of this list.

As to relocation, we're kind of on the fence right now. Our home needs some (mostly cosmetic) work, and long story short, except for the harsh winters, this ain't such a bad place (Central NY). If we do pull stakes, lower Appalachia and the "Four Corners" areas are at the top of our somewhat short list.

Tuesday, Aug 15th 10:43AM

Top concern is the moving process, loss of home goods and the expense. Have and am disposing of things through yard sale and gifting to family members.

Tuesday, Aug 15th 4:16PM

Wondering how living in a condo half the size of our house will work out. Have lived in the condo 5-6 months out of each of the past three years, so are fairly confident we will enjoy it. We got it at a bargain price, so can likely move from it without a financial loss if we later on decide we want to go somewhere else. Most of our downsizing involved giving away all sorts of items to charity and needy individuals. Sold a few things.
Plan on renting a dumpster and throwing most of items away if our daughter doesn't want them. Am worried about moving to another state since I have lived in my current state my whole life.

We donated everything we no longer wanted to either the city mission, veterans groups, or daughter's friends just starting out in life. Our top concerns with moving are finding an affordable small, one-level home with a tiny yard to garden, and let our two dogs run around in. Wary of HOA's and builders sticking residents with upkeep of large

First the children got what they wanted as a first step. We had planned on a garage sale, but our home sold within 2 days with closing within 30 days, so we didn't have time. We used charities like (Bridges) and others, so we at least are getting the tax deduction.

We have a few years before we move, so we'll be downsizing room by room then upgrading that room when I'm retire next year.

If your children or family members aren't interested in your things, donate them to charity or sell them. We sent many things to Goodwill. The "special memories" are created in your mind and will stay there. You don't have to hold on to material things forever to remind you. I did hold on to a few things that I think have some monetary value and I plan to research this and see if I can make a little money by selling them. My wife doesn't necessarily agree with me that there is money to be made, but we're only talking about 5-6 items, so that's not too bad.

Charitable donations and an estate sale.

Selling my house at a profit...this is a real concern even though the housing market is rebounding this does not hold true for condos. I would have to sell at a loss. I did do a partial downsizing and gave everything to Goodwill. It f lt good.

Selling my home took 2yrs on the market and I threw a lot of things away gave away sofas and bedroom items to charity. Put the rest of my belongings in storage where I will purge items once again when I find anew place in southern Missouri where I hope to find a place. Any time you move it's not a good experience when you're on a time table and have to make those decisions what goes and what stays.

I gave everything away, mostly to family, friends, and a charitable org that came to the house to pick up. Currently renting a furnished house, a lucky find, its only 2 years old and the furniture is all new too. Love doing that since after 6 months we've decided that we do not want to stay in this area. Have taken a couple of scouting trips for our next location and hope to decide on where to go next and start looking for rentals there. Would be happy to just move around for the
I had some items I wanted to get rid of. I posted on Facebooks what I had and some friends said they would gladly take dumpsters.

We don't have space or the extra money to buy another house.

My first mistake - didn't scope out the area I moved to but bought a house I absolutely loved.

Sold many things at an estate sale. Gave away lots of things. Probably moved more than I should have, new space is smaller. Downsizing is ongoing.

The drop in the housing market surprised me and I realized to get better situated in retirement, I need to spend more for the next small home. Downsized by selling bigger items, consignment shops for clothing, garage sales, and then when they didn't sale gave them away or donated to charity.

I'm not a keeper, but it still took us a while to get rid of stuff. Thankfully, two of our children had upsized their housing and took a lot of stuff. Our third child is still moving around.

Moving to another state, to find a good, safe place with good medical care. There is so much information out there, but say different (one says it's good another says stay away). The 55 plus community seems to look like the safer places, and I very much like the idea of being with people my own age. I also feel a little scared, I have always worked and to think my working years are over, I feel very overwhelmed. At the same time it's very exciting.

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We sold our home and business a couple of years ago because we wanted to transition into retirement. We then decided it was too early and my husband took a job in a different city in California. We sold all the furniture, all of the china, etc. in a garage sale posted on craigslist. We had to organize everything and put price stickers on everything. We had good furniture and rugs which sold within two weekends of having the sale. The leftover things we donated. We also sold one of the cars and now have only one. We decided to rent because the job was for two years only but now it has been three years. We decided that we want to retire a couple of years early before turning 65. We have recently bought a house in Florida after having visited there in the peak summer months so that we knew what to expect in terms of weather and will move in the next few months. Our families are on the east coast and we wanted to be nearer to them.

I give to the thrift store or army salvation and claim the items on my taxes. It doesn't bother me about the stuff. I have pictures that I can give my adult children when I move.

Keep you house in good repair and up-to-date so that it can sell quickly, if need be. Reduce clutter as much as possible and move only what you will need in the new house. Don't move things you haven't opened or used in years to the new house especially if you are going far or into a smaller house. The hardest part about moving is deciding whether to stay near the children and grandchildren or going someplace to which you always dreamed of moving.

My biggest concern is how much money is enough? After I'm debt free retirement should be more accessible. Downsizing is of moderate concern because I have many hobbies. My biggest concern is money after retirement.

Donated most of it. Giving away books and throwing out photos were the hardest parts of downsizing. We bought our home in the Villages 9 months ago and decided after a month here that we didn't want 2 homes to maintain. We should have started downsizing a few years before doing so (we did it in 3 months working 12 hours each day at it). We should have prepared our house for sale a year ago. Too much at one time is extremely stressful.

Most articles were given away to Goodwill, Friends, Family. Due to time constraints there was no time for a yard sale. I was not prepared for how emotional I was after selling the house we had lived in for 30 years. It was a big adjustment.

Concerns about moving away from family and friends is making it hard to decide. Ideally, we would like to move closer to the coast but not too far from family and friends. Also, would prefer to move to a tax friendly state for seniors.

Give things to relatives, sell some items on ebay to make some cash, donate things to charity and take a tax deduction. Also, tag sales, consign with pickers, pawn. Call Got Junk to have them pick up heavy furniture. Get rid of the stuff! Get a scanner and scan photos, give old photos to relatives after scanning. Think of the new start with the new home. Think like a newly wed and how fun it was to furnish your house for the first time. Get rid of the moth ridden furniture and buy new if you can when you move. Contact PODS and have them deliver their container(s) to start filling them up for the move. Once filled, they will come and take it to a warehouse or to your new home. If you decide to take your old furniture to your new home make sure you measure it and see if it will fit into your new smaller home if you downsized. Some furniture is too huge to fit in a smaller home. You will move it then have to get rid of it if it doesn't fit. Don't forget about your pets and how you will transport them stress free.

It has been hard to find our new 'dream' area. We are currently renting and will need to travel a lot and make compromises to find what we want. Unfortunately, where we are now has become 'home', so it will be hard to leave here as well. We gave away most of the stuff we left behind as we couldn't get realistic prices for anything. We took only 13 medium sized HD boxes. Now i wish I had taken more.

Top concern is spending more $ to furnish smaller home since current furnishings not "appropriate" or will not fit in smaller home. Have started selling but mostly giving away furniture (which I like). Sold a much larger home since yard work becoming too much, but at least it was exercise! As you can tell, I have mixed feelings about downsizing but feel it is the right thing to do (since we are not getting any younger).
Donated many items.

We sold on craigslist.com, to friends and donated to family members, neighbors, coworkers, Salvation Army, etc.

Start your downsizing & research your relocation sites early….even years in advance. Visit possible destinations for extended periods of time during their worst weather season.

Keep what is most precious & be prepared to accept that others won’t value your superfluous treasures the way you do. It’s ok…just let them go.

If you are building new, beware that new construction ALWAYS takes longer than you expect. Make sure you have extended storage options for your belongings & get to know AirBnB. Both have saved us.

I sold most of the stuff through craigslist. Having a hard time deciding what city to move to.

Our current plan is to rent in several possible second home locations. So its possible we may never actually buy a second home. However if presented with the opportunity to purchase in a desirable location, we will buy.

I’ve asked my extended family if they want any of my stuff. I’ve given other items to a non-profit to sell in their resale store. My biggest concern is to get my stuff to someone who wants it rather than sending it to a land fill. (It would certainly take a lot less time to downsize if I just threw everything out!)

Biggest issue is whether to buy in to a 55+, lower maintenance lifestyle or not. Ultimately it appears that equivalent 55+ properties sell at a premium, with HOA fees that require a commitment to the social life/using amenities to make the premium worthwhile.

At first it was difficult making decisions as to what to keep and what to throw. But, our kids didn’t want much of it, and it definitely got easier as we got further in the purging process. We gave things to friends, had a garage sale and donated a lot.

Sold to thrift store. Moving to a place with decent medical care is a concern and difficult to match with the size of retirement area we want to live in.

Donating items that I no longer need removes much of the sting of perhaps not getting my money’s worth from some.

Regarding downsizing - we toy with the idea of moving to a smaller home - one without a backyard pool. However, by the time DH and I factor in RE commissions, moving costs, taxes, etc., plus the cost of a different home, our financial yield would not be life-changing. The wear and tear on our bodies and psyches have to be factored in, as well.

Our home is a single story in a safe, walkable neighborhood and is close to our children and grandchildren. Other than maintenance and about 800 feet too much, it’s ideal.

We live in Kansas and own a true ranch home that is perfect for retirement. We wish we could move it to Florida as its architecture would fit perfectly in most any 0-20 year-old gulf coast neighborhood. So, to get the weather we desire, we will sell in Kansas and bring the blue prints with us to Florida. Won't commit to buy/build until the Kansas house is sold. Then we'll move south. We may keep a small apartment in Kansas if the children remain in the area as they establish their lives.