

# PACKING GUIDE

FOR GARIN, MASKILIM, TALMIDIM, CHALUTZIM

Welcome to your 2026 guide to packing and preparing for camp! When you arrive on Opening Day, your camper's belongings will be transported from your car directly to your camper's cabin by our staff.

**PLEASE FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES BELOW TO ENSURE THAT YOUR CAMPER'S BELONGINGS GET TO THE CORRECT CABIN!**

## PACKING AND LUGGAGE

All camper belongings **MUST** be packed inside of luggage — **DO NOT SEND LOOSE ITEMS**. This includes shower and bath caddies, so please consider using a collapsible version that will fit in your camper's duffle bag. If your camper will bring plastic drawers, please tape them shut for easy transport. Campers will unpack on Opening Day and their luggage will be stored until they pack to go home.

## LABEL EACH PIECE OF LUGGAGE

Please write your camper's first and last name on each piece of luggage, including any plastic drawers.

## MEDICATION

All medication **MUST** be turned in upon arrival at camp. Please note that we require all camper medication to be pre-packaged, in advance, in a special blister-pack for easy distribution. You will need to purchase medication blister-packs in advance of the summer, so we encourage you to [familiarize yourself with this procedure by clicking here](#).

## OPENING DAY BACKPACK

Each camper should arrive with an Opening Day Backpack to help them jump right in while all of their luggage is being transported to their cabin. This can be the same backpack they will use for the rest of the summer! It should be regular-sized, labeled with your camper's name, and contain the following items:

- Ziplock bag with essential toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, retainer, deodorant, menstrual products, etc.)
- A stuffed animal or other comfort item your camper might want at bedtime
- Hat
- Water Bottle
- Towel
- Bathing Suit and any other swim necessities (goggles, earplugs, etc.)

## INVOLVE YOUR CAMPER IN THE PACKING PROCESS

Please try to involve your camper in the packing process to make it easier for them to unpack in their cabin. This is especially helpful for younger campers. It may help to put Shabbat clothes in a separate ziplock bag labeled "save for Shabbat", and to keep sheets/towels separate from clothing to help them stay organized.

## CABIN STORAGE/CUBBY DIMENSIONS

As we get closer to the summer, we will provide a diagram detailing cabin storage/cubby dimensions for both our traditional and newly constructed camper cabins. All camper cabins will be assigned on opening day, and we do not accept requests for certain cabin numbers.



# PACKING CHECKLIST

FOR GARIN, MASKILIM, TALMIDIM, CHALUTZIM

**\*\* PLEASE LABEL FULL NAME ON ALL CAMPER BELONGINGS \*\***

## CLOTHING AND SHOES

- 10-14 short-sleeved shirts/t-shirts
- 10-14 pairs of shorts
- 1 pair of jeans or long pants
- 1 sweatshirt or long-sleeved shirt
- 14 - 16 pairs of underwear
- 12-14 pairs of socks
- 1 lightweight raincoat or poncho
- 2-3 pairs of pajamas
- 2-4 swimsuits
- 1 hat or baseball cap
- 1 set of old clothes for messy night (shirt, shorts, socks)
- 1 pair of sneakers (may want to send an extra old pair for messy night)
- 1 pair of "lake shoes" or water sandals with straps such as Texas or Chacos
- 1 pair of flip flops or shower/pool sandals

## SHABBAT CLOTHING

- 1-2 white shirts, tops or dresses
- 1-2 white or light kahki shorts or skirts

## TOILETRIES

- Hairbrush and hair ties, if needed
- Body wash/soap
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Sunscreen
- Bug Spray
- Box of tissues
- 1 shower bucket to hold shampoo, conditioner and body wash
- 1 bathroom bucket to hold toothbrush, toothpaste, hair brush, etc.

## LUGGAGE AND BACKPACKS

- Duffle bag or other luggage to fit all of camper's belongings
- Backpack for daily use (Same as the Opening Day backpack)

## BEDDING AND LINENS

- 4 bath towels
- 2 washcloths, if needed
- 3 pool towels
- 1 blanket/comforter
- 2 twin fitted sheets
- 2 twin flat sheets
- 2 pillow cases
- 1 pillow
- 2 laundry bags marked with camper's name
- 1 Sleeping Bag

## WRITING HOME

- 10+ stamped envelopes/postcards depending on how often your camper will want to write letters (place in zip lock bag to keep moisture out)
- Stationery, pens, and a container to keep these items organized

## OPTIONAL ITEMS

- Plastic drawers and/or hanging organizer (see camper storage info below)
- Plastic cup or extra water bottle for beside bed
- Inexpensive Camera
- Music Player (please see our electronic device policy)
- Extra eyeglasses
- Sunglasses
- Tape for hanging photos
- Bandana
- Bathrobe
- Musical instruments, if your camper would like to perform at camp
- [Sensory Headphones](#)



# TIPS + SUGGESTIONS

## FROM EXPERIENCED CAMP PARENTS

The Jacobs Camp Parent Advisory Council has created the following list of packing tips and optional items to consider. All links and items mentioned are suggestions only.

**PLASTIC DRAWERS** Many families [use plastic drawers to pack their children's clothing](#) (this makes it easy for campers since they don't have to be unpacked!). They **MUST** be taped closed for easy transport. Plastic drawers can fit in the taller cubby space (check the drawer dimensions and reference the cubby dimensions to confirm) or at the end of camper bunk beds.

**HANGING SHELVES/ORGANIZER** These help to utilize the larger cubby space and collapse for ease of packing

**BEDSIDE CADDY** A bedside caddy can be helpful for top bunk campers

**MESSY NIGHT ZIPLOCK** Place Messy Night clothing in a ziplock bag, labeled "Messy Night." These clothes will get so disgusting, so don't send anything you ever want to see again! If your child has an old pair of sneakers that can be thrown away, it is a good idea to place those in the bag, too.

**BATH MAT** Experienced parents highly recommend sending a small bath mat your camper can place next to their bed to wipe off feet before getting in bed.

**CAMERA SUGGESTIONS** If your camper wants to bring a camera, experienced parents recommend an old digital camera you aren't using anymore, Instax Polaroid with enough film or a disposable camera. Make sure the camera is labeled, and don't send anything too fancy that could get broken or lost.

**REST HOUR ACTIVITIES** Many campers enjoy crossword puzzles, books, drawing paper/notebook, stickers, markers, a deck of cards, small card games, and friendship bracelet string, nail polish, etc. Don't go overboard, but a few of these items can be fun.

**BOOK LIGHT** for campers who enjoy reading before bed

**LAP DESK** for writing letters during rest hour.

**HOOKS** [Removable hooks](#) are super helpful for hanging wet towels and swimsuits, and can be hung on the front of the bunk bed.

**MACCABIAH CLOTHES** Maccabiah is our camp color war, and kids are split up into green, red, blue and yellow teams. You will not know what color team your camper will be on prior to camp, but campers will share with one another so everyone has the right color for their team. Some kids like to be sure and pack Green, red, blue, and yellow shirt/shorts/spirit items for Maccabiah

**MAILING LABELS** Pre-printed mailing labels/envelopes are helpful so your child can write to family and friends

**CLOCK** Some kids like this for next to their bed

**EXTRA HAND SOAP** Some kids like to bring this for the cabin bathroom, though hand soap is provided

**COLLEGE T-SHIRTS** These are always a popular item at camp!

**THE DOLLAR STORE/DOLLAR GENERAL/DOLLAR TREE** These are cost-efficient sources for rest hour items, hooks, bathmats, shower caddy, etc.



# ADDITIONAL INFO

## DRESS CODE

Fun at camp can mean getting wet, messy, and dirty. Please do not buy all new clothing for your camper. Camp is primarily an outdoor setting where light-weight, comfortable clothing works best. High-heeled shoes, designer clothes and expensive jewelry are highly discouraged. Campers should not wear inappropriate attire including items that are:

- Intentionally tight
- Revealing
- Alcohol Ads
- Drugs Ads

If your camper is dressed inappropriately, they will be asked to change. Please help us by making sure all clothing sent to camp is appropriate, both for the weather and for our community.

## SHABBAT ATTIRE

One of the most special times at camp is our observance of Shabbat. In keeping with our tradition, we ask that our camp community dress in white tops and either white or khaki bottoms for Friday evenings.

## LAUNDRY

Campers should have enough clothing with them to last at least 10 days. Keep in mind summers in Mississippi are hot and your camper will likely wear more than one set of clothing per day. At least once every 10 days, cabins will have a scheduled laundry day. Our laundry staff will pick-up laundry bags from the cabins, wash and dry the contents, and return the clean clothes and linens at the end of the day. All laundry will be done in cold water. All clothes sent to camp should be marked with the child's **first and last name**. Returning lost and found items is much more efficient when items have a first and last name.

## TOILETRIES

Campers should bring enough personal toiletry items to last their entire session. If your child runs out of something, you will receive a call from the camp office so you can send more. We will provide emergency items until your package arrives.

Campers usually have one smaller bucket or toiletry bag for their toothbrush, toothpaste and other sink items, and a waterproof bucket/caddy for shampoo, conditioner, soap and other shower items.

- We advise purchasing collapsible toiletries buckets that can be packed in your camper's luggage.
- We also recommend putting toiletry items in zip lock bags to avoid leaks during transport.

## SPECIAL EQUIPMENT

During the course of the session, your child will have many opportunities to learn and develop new skills. In almost all cases, the camp supplies the necessary equipment and supplies to participate. In particular instances where your camper wishes to bring his/her own special equipment, please be selective, and remember that the camp is not responsible for loss or damage of personal items.

## NO PLUG-IN FANS

Do not send plug-in fans to camp with your child. Fans are potentially serious hazards. The air conditioning system in each cabin keeps everyone cool during the day and cold at night.

## ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Please see our [electronic device policy](#) here.

