

BAGPACK CHECKLIST

1) Clothes

The dress code on campus is pretty informal and a T-shirt worn with jeans/shorts is almost a universal dress code for both genders here. Formal dressing is mandatory occasionally. You may, of course, want to bring along some Indian clothes (saris, kurtas) etc. We would also recommend that you get a pair of good leather shoes, as they are fairly expensive here.

In general, the following list should suffice:

The following are recommended to be bought from India (at least for the first year!!).

- **At least** 15 pairs of undergarments.
- 4-5 pairs of Jeans.
- 10-12 T-shirts.
- 2-3 pairs of formal trousers and shirts.
- Saris/salwar kameez for girls and kurtas for guys. You should have at least 5-6 traditional dresses for functions like Diwali, Navaratri etc.
- A suit (*recommended*—you'll need it when you are being interviewed for your job).
- 1 pair of thermals (available cheap in the US).
- At least 8-10 pairs of socks.
- 3-4 pairs of informal shirts (Half Sleeve for Spring/Summer).
- 2 large towels, 2 small towels, 2-3 napkins.
- 1 pair woolen gloves and a skull/Beanie cap (if you feel like it - better buy here in the US though).
- An umbrella/Raincoat
- In summer, it gets pretty warm and humid, so preferable clothing during this time is shorts/capris/skirts, sleeveless tops for girls and shorts and t-shirts for guys.
- Get 1 or 2 pairs of shoes.
- Chappals/ sandals/floater (1 pair).
- Belts (1 or 2).
- Leather shoes (1 pair, important!!).
- Formal Shoes

Also, remember that the laundry cycle is generally once in 15 days, so get sufficient clothes accordingly. Do not buy stuff for snow/winter from India; just get the basic stuff mentioned above. Snow/Winter jackets, sweatshirts, flees etc. Do not worry if you can't bring any of the items listed above most of them are available pretty cheap in the US (made in China). Exceptions are leather goods and formal wear.

2) Personal Items

Get the following for your first few days (or weeks if you want), but just that much:

- Toothbrush and toothpaste.
- Shaving kit [includes shaving Creams/Gels, Razor, Razor blades (pack of 5), shaving brush (optional) and aftershave (optional)].
- Hair comb/brush.
- Soap (2 bath soaps).
- Shampoo (1 bottle).
- Perfumes and Deodorants.
- Two pair of spectacles (Since it is costly in US)
- Ear buds.
- Tooth floss.
- Coconut oil (if you want.).
- Nail cutter.
- Cold Cream/Moisturizer (essential in winter).
- Headset and microphone set.
- Mug for bathing (especially if not accustomed to shower baths)
- Chai (Tata tea/ Taj Mahal/ any other)

Also remember that in most of the rented apartments, the stoves are induction type. Kindly verify before buying any utensil if that works on Induction stoves/ not.

3) Kitchen Ware

Don't go overboard in stuffing your bags with all possible items. Exercise restraint instead of packing stuff that would last all your life. After you land here you just might realize what a waste of money it all was. Also, it is strongly recommended that you decide on your room-mates from India and divide this stuff among yourselves.

These all will help you if you live off campus:

- Pressure cooker (expensive here so recommended that you get it from India). Bring a large one if you plan to share accommodation - at least 3 liters. Spare accessories for the cooker (safety valves, gasket, whistle, etc - very imp).
- Cutting board
- Masala box (Masala/dabba)
- 1 non-stick frying pan.
- Wooden stirrer (2).
- Spoons, forks (2 or 3).
- 1-2 sharp knives.

- Butter knife.
- Potato peeler (1).
- Serving spoons (chamcha/karandi – at least 2).
- A pair of kitchen tongs (pakkad/idiki).
- Deep frying pan (kadahi, preferably non - stick).
- Plates (at least 2 - prefer to get ones that are microwaveable).
- Glasses (2).
- Cooling rack for rotis (this is costly here)
- (<https://www.amazon.com/Roti-Jari-Grill-Papd-Chapati/dp/B002M92XQ6>)
- Tea Cup/ Coffee Mug.

Before buying any utensil, make sure that it works on induction stoves too as most of the rented apartments here have induction stoves setup in the kitchens

Bring all sorts of homemade spices if you want. We have to go to Atlanta to buy any Indian spices, so it is good to bring them from India. Goal post in Auburn has few Indian spices and other cooking stuff but costlier than Atlanta.