



MOVING CHECKLIST

60 DAYS BEFORE MOVE

- Research movers and hire one as soon as you know your moving date. Movers can book up fast certain times of the year, so get on their schedule as soon as you can.
- Get appraisals on your expensive items, like antiques, so you can insure them for your move.
- Determine how many packing supplies you need and start organizing them.
- Research your new community, including schools and nearby doctors and hospitals.
- Decide whether you need a car mover.
- If you are being transferred by your employer, learn your company's moving policy and procedures.
- Pare down — use up, sell, recycle or donate anything you don't want to move.
- Consider holding a garage sale prior to your move.
- Make a moving folder or booklet — include an inventory of your household items with a video or photos.

YOUR RECORDS

- Contact your insurance agent to transfer insurance policies. Ask about coverage while you're in transit.
- Create a folder for receipts of moving-related expenses.
- Check the requirements for a new driver's license and complete auto registration at your new motor vehicle location.
- Obtain an IRS change of address form at IRS.gov.
- Transfer school records. Begin the process of registering for schools in your new location.
- Notify doctors and dentists of the move and collect records. Keep these in a safe place.
- Transfer organization memberships to your new hometown.
- Research banks in the area you will be living in if you must switch banks and establish accounts if needed.
- Get a change of address form from the post office.

YOUR FAMILY & PETS

- Make move travel arrangements, including any hotel reservations. Be sure to arrive in your new location well before your mover's scheduled arrival.
- Schedule upcoming pet health exams and make sure their vaccinations are up to date. Get recommendations for veterinarians in your new town so you can have your pets' records transferred.



MOVING CHECKLIST

30 DAYS BEFORE MOVE

- Check in with your mover to confirm dates and details.
- Make arrangements to have utilities disconnected at current home and arrange for service at your new home.
- Buy needed furniture for new home and arrange for it to arrive when the rest of your things do.
- Start planning where things will go in your new home.
- Create an inventory of your stuff so you can compare against the moving company's list.
- Plan for how to handle any appliances you are moving.
- Start packing things you won't need before the move, like seasonal items.
- Arrange childcare and pet care for the day of your move or identify where they can stay safe.
- Make a packing plan — assign everyone a task and involve the kids.
- Make an unpacking plan for the new home — who does what and diagram where the furniture goes.
- Make sure your car is ready for the trip if you're driving it to the new location.

YOUR RECORDS

- Give a change of address to the following: Banks, schools, friends and family, insurance company, doctors and specialists, cell phone company, credit card companies, current and new employer, and magazine and newspaper subscriptions.
- Let service providers — landscapers, cleaning services — know you're moving and look for new ones in your new hometown.

YOUR FAMILY & PETS

- If time permits, get routine checkups from dentist and/or eye doctor.
- Encourage children to make an address book of friends.



MOVING CHECKLIST

14 DAYS BEFORE MOVE

- Begin cleaning any emptied rooms in your house such as closets, basements or attics. Check for anything left unpacked.
- Moving plants? Check if the moving company will take them. Otherwise, you'll have to carry them in your car or give them away to friends.
- Arrange to have your current and new home cleaned.
- Collect valuable items such as jewelry or heirlooms and keep them separate from other belongings.
- Return any borrowed items, such as library books, and collect anything at the dry cleaners.
- Apartment dwellers should make arrangements for movers to use elevator on move day.

YOUR RECORDS

- Find new pharmacies where you can transfer your family's prescriptions. Make sure you have enough required medication in case you don't locate a new pharmacist/doctor immediately.
- Organize important documents (wills, passports, etc.) to carry with you when moving; make electronic copies but carry the originals with you.

YOUR FAMILY & PETS

- Make sure you've made travel arrangements for your pet.



ONE WEEK BEFORE MOVE

- Pack any items you haven't yet packed.
- Label your moving boxes with room location in your new home. Where applicable, mark boxes "fragile," "do not load" or "load last."
- Call your mover and confirm your move date and make any special arrangements for items like a piano.
- Arrange for payment of movers. A \$20 to \$25 cash tip per mover is usual but this can vary by area.
- Confirm closing/move-in dates with your real estate agent and confirm dates for any storage units.
- Discuss a contingency plan if the movers are late to arrive at your new home. Where will you sleep?
- Back up your computer files and disconnect and disassemble your computer and peripherals.
- Properly dispose of hazardous and flammable items that can't be transported such as paint, chemicals, aerosol cans and oil, as well as weed killers. Discard propane tanks from grills.
- Double check dates for when utilities will be hooked up at the new home and turned off at your current home.

YOUR RECORDS

- Make sure all scheduled deliveries (newspaper, etc.) have been canceled or redirected to your new home.
- Gather all keys, alarm codes, garage door openers and warranties and place them in a folder along with your contact information so you can give them to the new owner or real estate agent.

YOUR FAMILY & PETS

- Start preparing your kids for the move.
- Empty all lockers at school, work or at your gym.
- Return any borrowed items from friends (or the library).



MOVING CHECKLIST

WEEK OF MOVE

- Put together a moving day survival kit with items needed for the trip and immediately when you arrive at your new home.
- Empty, clean and defrost your refrigerator/freezer and use baking soda to rid it of any foul odors.
- Double check any arrangements you might have made to transport your pet.
- Write out a list for your movers of things they'll need: phone numbers, exact moving address and directions.
- Check the inventory list and sign it. Put your copy in your moving folder.
- Read the Bill of Lading carefully and sign it, if it is correct.
- Make sure you have the moving company's contact information in your moving folder.
- If you don't have professional cleaners coming in, make sure you clean your home before leaving.
- Pack a moving-day box of things you'll be moving yourself, so you have access to them right away.
- Pack pet food and pet litter.
- Be sure you have cash on hand for the move. Find out if you'll owe money after the move and find out what form of payment the movers accept.
- Notify the police in your town if your home will be uninhabited for a long period of time.
- Before you move, mow your lawn one last time, especially if your home will not be unoccupied immediately after your departure.
- Make sure you know what to do with final trash.
- Do a walk-through of your new home with your real estate agent.
- In your new home, tape names to doors to assist movers. Map out the floor layout so movers know what's going where.
- Prepare your new home to prevent any damage as furniture comes in.

WEEK AFTER MOVE

- Get your kids involved in the unpacking process and help them find activities in your new town.
- Make sure you have fire extinguishers and fire detectors in your new home.
- Tackle some fun first projects to help make your house a home (like hanging pictures).
- Explore the new town — get acquainted, find out where everything is.
- Replace locks if you're uneasy about keeping the locks that came with the house.
- Update your address for all these: voter registration, driver's license, tax forms, new bank account, etc.
- Start thinking about the larger home-renovation projects you'd like to get started and prioritize them.