



Moving Checklist

This moving checklist and bonus packing checklist can help you stay on track and help make your move a success!

8–12 Weeks Before You Move:

Contact moving companies: If you'll be hiring a mover, obtain quotes from at least three moving companies, and read customer reviews.

Downsize and declutter: Donate, recycle, sell, or properly dispose of anything you don't want to take with you.

Sort and label: Sorting belongings and labeling boxes will make it much easier to find important items quickly when you move into your new space.

Organize records: Transfer school records, contact your insurance agent to update your address, and check that your auto, medical, and other documents are up to date.

Start looking for new service and medical providers: Research doctors, dentists, veterinarians, banks, landscapers, and more at your new location.

Start your own moving manual: Start a binder that contains an inventory of your household items, moving estimates, or other important receipts.

Arrange for childcare: Supervising children during the move can be difficult. Talk with friends, family, or a babysitter to make sure someone can watch your children on moving day.

Schedule routine medical appointments: Doctor, dentist, optometrist, or veterinarian visits may be difficult to schedule if you move to a new place and must find and register with new providers. Try to get appointments out of the way before you move.

Take measurements and map things out: Plan where larger items, like furniture, will fit in your new home—doorways included!

Make packing and unpacking plans: Determine which boxes will be most important so you can access your essentials and unpack items in an order that makes sense.

Arrange for pet care: Make sure your pets are taken care of during the move and when you are unpacking.

Use up your food: To avoid packing perishable food, try to use it beforehand.

1–2 Weeks Before You Move:

Confirm details with the moving company: Make sure you have the company's contact information and the company has yours.

Organize key documents: Carry original passports, birth certificates, deeds, financial statements, and other critical documents with you directly. It's also a good idea to make copies of them, as well.

Refill prescriptions: Make sure you have an adequate supply of your medications, are established at a local pharmacy, if needed, and have forwarded any appropriate medical records to avoid problems or delays.

Gather keys, alarm codes, and garage door openers for your current home: Keep all of these in one place for your real estate agent to hand over to the new owners.

Confirm closing and move-in dates: Reach out to your real estate agent and mover to confirm final dates for closing and moving into your home.

Clean out safety deposit boxes: Be sure to separate and carry any valuables (such as jewelry) with you.

4–6 Weeks Before You Move:

Order supplies and start packing: Order boxes and other supplies, such as tape, bubble wrap, and markers. Pack items you won't need first, ensuring that items are clearly labeled.

Contact utility and home service companies: When you move, you'll need to sign up for things like electric, sewer, and water in your new home. You'll also likely need to research Internet providers.

Obtain change-of-address forms: You can change your address at your local post office or online at USPS.com.



Moving Checklist

Continued

Get a car tune-up: If you're moving to a new location with a different climate, ask your mechanic what additional services you may need. Having your vehicle tuned can also make it easier to move yourself and your belongings long distances.

Arrange for payments and tips for movers: Find out what types of payments are accepted by your movers, as well as the total cost, and have the funds ready. Also, have cash on hand for tips.

Make a copy of your house key: When you get a new key, make copies for others in your family, and an extra to spare, in case one gets lost during or after the move.

Prioritize which boxes to unpack: You probably can't do everything in a day. Unpack the essentials first, like toiletries and clothing.

Moving Day

Make a moving-day survival kit: This should include items you'll need upon arrival at your new home and for a few days after, until you have time to unpack.

Examples include:

- Bottled water
- Dishes or paper goods
- Toiletries
- Trash bags
- Pet food
- Toys for younger children
- Clothing for a few days

If you have movers, check and sign your moving inventory list: This helps ensure all your items are accounted for. You should also read the Bill of Lading carefully before you sign it.

Complete a walkthrough with your real estate agent: Make sure everything looks as expected in your new home. Also, ask for all appliance manuals, warranties, and instruction booklets.

Create clear pathways for moving items in: You and your movers must be able to get into your home easily, so remove any obstacles upon arrival.

Packing Tips for Moving to a New Home

Here are some packing tips to make the process easier:

Color-code boxes: Use different colors of tape or markers. Boxes with the same color can immediately go together into the correct rooms.

Label boxes with numbers. Assign each box a number. Then, keep a list on your phone of what items are in each box. This helps you avoid losing items and makes it faster to find specific items you'll need during the unpacking process.

Keep clothes on hangers: This saves time, both when packing and unpacking. Pull clothes off the rack, rubber band the hangers together, and put a garbage bag over the clothing to move it quickly and efficiently.

Wrap fragile items: Use bubble wrap or newspaper to wrap items that could break. Sometimes, friends or loved ones will give you old newspapers for free.

Avoid leaving empty spaces in boxes: Pack each box as full as possible, and consider filling in gaps with things like towels or blankets to avoid wasted space and cushion your items.

Have a bag of essentials: Water, medication, pet food, and other items you expect to need immediately should be in a separate bag or box so you can access them easily.

For additional details regarding this checklist and more tips, visit:

www.freedommortgage.com/learn/real-estate/moving-tips-with-checklist