

MOVING CHECKLIST

We know that moving can be a stressful and challenging time. That's why we've put together a comprehensive checklist to help you cope with the entire process, from the moment you decide to move until you're settled into your new home.

Two months before the move

- Get a local newspaper or check local websites to familiarize yourself with local government, community, social news and activities.
- Clean out the closets.
- If the move is due to a job change, check what expenses your company will cover.

Six weeks before moving

- Make a list of your main belongings
- Decide which belongings you are taking to the new house and where you are going to put the larger ones.
- Check to see if your insurance covers the move. Research local schools (if necessary).
- Arrange for the transfer of your children's school records (if necessary).

Two weeks before the move

- Make sure you have enough prescription medication for the moving period (if needed).
- If your mover will not make arrangements for you, hire others to perform the services.
- Cancel local deliveries and services, e.g., newspapers, gardener, cleaner, milk, fuel or oil delivery.
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The day before you move

- Walk through your home one last time to make sure everything is in place.
- Disassemble the beds.
- Store bedding in a box that travels with you, so you can use it the first night.
- Make sure you have the keys to your new home or have arranged to meet someone to pick them up.

On a moving day

- Record all utility meter readings (gas, electricity, and water).
- Stay until the movers have finished.
- Take a last look to see if you've forgotten anything.
- Before you leave, check that all windows are securely closed and that water, gas and electricity supplies are disconnected.
- You may be asked to sign an inventory or packing list: check it carefully to make sure you are happy with the contents.
- Give the mover directions to your new home and an emergency telephone number where you can be reached during the move.

Once at your new home

- Be sure to be present when the moving crew arrives so you can guide them through the house, confirming what is being moved and any special instructions.
- Check the unloading of your items and note each item on your packing inventory.
- Check carefully for any missing or damaged items.
- Keep moving documents and other relevant papers in a safe place.
- Go to the post office and pick up any held mail.

The day before the move

- Start cleaning and making beds.
- Plug in the phones, answering machine, and major appliances. Unpack your "survival kit."
- Let the grown-ups organize their rooms.
- Arrange the little ones in a room with toys and treats. If possible, keep pets away until you've settled in.

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