

Moving checklist

We understand moving home can be a stressful and trying time. That's why we've put together a comprehensive moving checklist, designed to help you cope with the entire moving process from the second you decide to move until the moment you're settled in your new property.

Two months before you move

- Get hold of a local paper or check the local area's websites to familiarise yourself with local government, community, social news and activities.
- Clean out cupboards.
- If relocating due to a job move, check what costs your employer will cover.

Six weeks before you move

- Draw up a list of all your main possessions.
- Decide which possessions you are taking to your new home, and where you will put the larger items.
- Check whether your insurance policy will cover your move.
- Research local schools.
- Arrange to transfer your children's school records.

Two weeks before you move

- Check you have adequate prescription medicines to cover the moving period.
- Safely dispose of all flammables e.g. Paints, Gas Bottles, Cleaning Fluids etc.
- If your removal company is not making arrangements for you, book people to carry out services. e.g. Removing light fittings, House Cleaning
- Cancel local deliveries and service, for example newspapers, gardener, cleaner, milk delivery, fuel or oil.

The day before you move

- Walk through your house one last time to make sure everything is accounted for.
- Strip beds.
- Keep linens in a box that travels with you, so you can use them the first night.
- Make sure you have the keys to your new home, or have arranged to collect them.

The day of the move

- Record all utility meter readings (gas, electricity, and water)
- Stay until your movers have finished.
- Check the traffic for your journey with keepmoving.com
- Take one final look around to see if you forgot anything.
- Before leaving check that all windows are secure and water, gas and electricity supplies are switched off.
- You may be asked to sign a packing inventory/list: check carefully to ensure that you are happy with the content.
- Give movers the directions to your new home, and an emergency number where you can be reached during the move.

Once you have in your new home

- Make sure you are present when the removal crew arrives so you can guide them around the house confirming what is to be moved and any special instructions.
- Check the unloading of your items and account for each one on your packing inventory. Check carefully for any damaged or missing items.
- Place moving and other important documents in a safe place.
- Go to the post office and collect held mail.

After you have moved in

- Start cleaning and make the beds.
- Plug in your telephones, answering machine and large appliances.
- Unpack your 'survival kit'.
- Let older children organise their own rooms.
- Settle younger children in one room with some toys and treats.
- If possible, keep pets away until you are settled in.