

Checklist for a Happy Move

As soon as you know your new address:

Notify post office and fill out change of address
Notify magazines & newspapers of new address
Notify insurance company
Change all addresses on all charge accounts that you are going to keep.
Close the ones you no longer need.

30-15 days before you Move:

Call mover & obtain estimates
Arrange for packing cartons if mover does not supply them
Prepare inventory of goods to be moved Set up a house cleaner for the day of closing to clean appliances, baths, vacuum & sweep
Dispose of everything you do not wish to move (now's the time!) Notify draft board if you are still on active duty*Notify schools & make arrangements to have all records transferred to new school*Obtain dental & medical records (pets info too!)*Make travel arrangements to new town

2 weeks before you move

Collect all clothing and items to be repaired
Return things borrowed, collect things loaned
Arrange Homeowners insurance once you have a closing date
Arrange utility companies to make final readings once you have a closing date.

***Note: Do not terminate service in cold weather, just transfer it.

***Note: (closing dates may not be set until the last minute the dates on the contract are approx...frustrating, but true.)

And, don't forget to cancel your newspaper delivery.

1 Week before you move

Get approx. figure of \$ needed for closing
Transfer or close all bank accounts(bank safety deposit box)Pack all necessary items
Begin packing suitcase that you can live out of for a few days in your new home
Place a special carton of things you will need the first few hours in your new home such as: soap, toilet tissue, towels, paper plates, cups, can opener, pet food, etc, Set aside articles to be taken to your car
If your home will be vacant notify the police.

The Day before moving

Empty & defrost refrigerator & freezer, clean & air out
Plan a simple breakfast (less cooking & cleanup) Finish packing personal belongings
Enjoy your last day in your old home.
And, I know it's exciting, but try and get a good night's sleep!

Moving day

Be ready to supervise the movers.
Strip the beds leaving on bottom fitted sheet for protection
Relax.....Let the movers do their job
Check house to make sure everything has moved & everything is turned off & locked up

Moving in tips

Be on hand to tell the movers where to place the furniture
Have a certified check or cash on hand to pay the movers*Locate nearest: hospital, fire dept, drug store, veterinarian, discount stores, gas station, hardware, post office, grocery store
Have a good move & enjoy your new home!

The Day before moving

Empty & defrost refrigerator & freezer, clean & air out
Plan a simple breakfast (less cooking & cleanup)
Finish packing personal belongings
Enjoy your last day in your old home.

Tips For Packing

Develop a master "to do" list so you won't forget something critical.
Sort and get rid of things you no longer want or need. Have a garage sale, donate to a charity, or recycle.
Don't throw out everything. If your inclination is to just toss it, ask yourself how frequently you use an item and how you'd feel if you no longer had it.
Pack like items together.
Put toys with toys, kitchen utensils with kitchen utensils.
Decide what if anything you plan to move yourself.
Precious items, such as family photos, valuable breakables, or must-haves during the move, should probably stay with you.
Use the right box for the item, loose items encourage breakage.
Put heavy items in small boxes so they're easier to lift. Keep weight under 50 lbs. if possible.
Don't over-pack boxes and increase the chances they will break.
Wrap every fragile item separately and pad bottom and sides of boxes.

Label every box on all sides.

You never know how they'll be stacked and you don't want to have to move other boxes aside to find out what's there.

Use color-coded labels to indicate which room each item should go in. Color-code a floor plan for your new house to help movers.

Keep your moving documents together, including phone numbers, driver's name, and van number. Also keep your address book handy.

Back up your computer files before moving your computer.

Inspect each box and all furniture for damage as soon as it arrives.

Also, remember, most movers won't take plants.

Another moving checklist:

Give your forwarding address to the post office, usually two to four weeks ahead of the move.

Notify your credit card companies, magazine subscriptions, and bank of the change of address.

Develop a list of friends, relatives, and business colleagues who need to be notified of the move.

Arrange to have utilities disconnected at your old home and connected at your new one.

Check insurance coverage for moved items.

Usually movers only cover what they pack.

Clean out appliances and prepare them for moving, if applicable.

****Note:**

The weight of the goods you'll have moved, since long-distance moves are usually billed according to weight. Watch for movers that use excessive padding to add weight.

Check with your condo or co-op about restrictions on using the elevator or particular exits.

Have a "first open" box with the things you'll need most—toilet paper, soap, trash bags, scissors, hammer, screwdriver, pencils and paper, cups and plates, water, snacks, and toothpaste.

Plus, if you're moving out of town:

Get copies of medical and dental records and prescriptions for your family and your pets.

Get copies of children's school records for transfer.

Ask friends for introductions to anyone they know in your new neighborhood.

Consider special car needs for pets when traveling.

Let a friend or relative know your route.

Carry traveler's checks or an ATM card for ready cash until you can open a bank account.

Empty your safety deposit box.

Put plants in boxes with holes for air circulation if you're moving in cold weather.