








The Ultimate Moving Checklist

Getting Organized



Getting started

-  **Bookmark this page or print your checklist**
-  **Block time in your calendar to prepare for the move**
-  **Coordinate moving/closing dates to the best of your ability**

Setting a budget (ideally 10 weeks before the move)

-  **Set a realistic moving budget**
-  **Track your expenses**







Moving out of the home or apartment you've been renting (ideally 10 weeks before the move)

-  Review your lease agreement
-  Notify your current landlord

Renting your new home or apartment (ideally 10 weeks before the move)




-  Confirm with your new landlord when your rental will be ready

Preparing to move (ideally 8 weeks before the move)







-  Contact insurance agents for both homes
-  Let in-person service providers know you're moving
-  Schedule time off work and notify your employer of an upcoming change of address
-  Complete a change of address form and determine whether you need the USPS premium forwarding service
-  Change Social Security and Medicare mailing addresses
-  Schedule a pest inspection

Planning The Move






Hiring a moving company (ideally 8 weeks before the move)

-  **Research reputable moving companies**
-  **Get estimates from professional movers**
-  **Pick your movers and sign a contract**





Moving DIY-style (ideally 8 weeks before the move)

-  **Make sure your helpers are available**
-  **Determine the right size truck rental**
-  **Understand your insurance options**
-  **Figure out whether you need to rent additional equipment**
-  **Book a moving truck rental**
-  **Check state transportation requirements**







Shipping a vehicle (ideally 8 weeks before the move)

-  **Research car shipping companies**
-  **Ask for proof of insurance**
-  **Check your own auto insurance policy**
-  **Book a car shipping company**
-  **Have an extra set of keys on hand**



Moving with children (ideally 8 weeks before the move)




-  Discuss the move with your kids
-  Research childcare and schools in your new community
-  Register for school
-  Finalize moving day childcare

Moving with pets (ideally 6 weeks before the move)




-  Research pet transportation
-  Take your pet to the vet
-  Request copies of vet records and get any necessary medications
-  Research a new vet
-  Get new ID tags and update the address on your microchip (if applicable)
-  Finalize pet arrangements

Moving to a new community (ideally 6 weeks before the move)



-  Research your new community
-  Update your memberships to community organizations, subscription services, gyms and clubs

-  Find a new doctor, dentist and pharmacy
-  Forward medical records and prescriptions
-  Make a point to say goodbye

Storing items (ideally 6 weeks before the move)




-  Figure out what you need to store and how much space you need
-  Research reputable self storage companies
-  Consider purchasing insurance






Getting ready to travel (ideally 6 weeks before the move)

-  Make travel arrangements
-  Take your vehicles in for a tune-up

Decluttering








Decluttering your home (ideally 6 weeks before the move)

-  Dispose of hazardous household items like old paint and unused cleaning products
-  Return anything you borrowed from neighbors
-  Start eating everything!







-  Clear out storage spaces
-  Delete unnecessary computer files, and then make sure everything is backed up to a cloud or external hard drive
-  Sort all your clothing, toys, books, games, and all other houseware items
-  Sell the items you don't need
-  Take donation items to a donation center

Packing

Preparing to pack (ideally 4 weeks before the move)

-  Pick up moving boxes
-  Print off moving box labels
-  Organize important documents and valuables
-  Inventory all your valuables
-  Start a moving box inventory
-  Take photos of all electronics before unplugging them
-  Measure doorways and large furniture

Starting to pack (ideally 4 weeks before the move)

-  Prepare your furniture for the move
-  Purchase travel essentials
-  Start packing items that you aren't using
-  Update your moving box inventory based on the boxes you've packed so far
-  Pack your first week's essentials
-  Don't forget to take breaks!



Moving with children (ideally 4 weeks before the move)

-  Pack essentials for your kids?

Moving with pets (ideally 4 weeks before the move)

-  Pack essentials for your pets

Storing items (ideally 2 weeks before the move)

-  Book a storage unit
-  Keep boxes and items that are going into storage separated

Getting Ready For The Move





Moving DIY-style (ideally 2 weeks before the move)

-  **Reconfirm moving plans with your helpers**







Moving with children (ideally 2 weeks before the move)

-  **Create moving day activities**



Shipping a vehicle (ideally 2 weeks before the move)

-  **Start using up the gas in your car**
-  **Remove items from your vehicle**
-  **Confirm pickup and drop-off locations**
-  **Take photos of your car to document its condition**



Finishing up odds and ends (ideally 1 week before the move)

-  **Take out trash and recycling for the final time**
-  **Mow the lawn and clean the gutters**
-  **Remove oil and gas from lawnmowers and snowblowers**
-  **Clean your space**
-  **Clean out the fridge**
-  **Schedule utilities to be shut off and turned on**







Moving out of the home or apartment you've been renting (ideally 1 week before the move)

-  Inspect your rental and fix damages
-  Ensure all bills are paid in full

Renting your new home or apartment (ideally 1 week before the move)


-  Inspect your new rental with the landlord
-  Create a list of items to buy for the new place (but don't buy them yet)

Preparing for the move (ideally 1 week before the move)

-  Plan meals for the final week
-  Make a moving day playlist to enjoy while moving and unpacking
-  Complete last-minute packing
-  Keep an eye on the weather
-  Make sure your phone is charged
-  Pack snacks and a cooler

Storing items (ideally 1 week before the move)

-  Pick up a lock / the keys to your storage space



-  Move anything that you need to store into your storage unit

Managing movers (ideally 1 week before the move)

-  Have cash on hand

Moving Day



Managing movers (ideally on the actual moving day)

-  Keep the movers on task
-  Pay the movers



Moving DIY-style (ideally on the actual moving day)


-  Keep helpers hydrated and fed

Moving with pets (ideally on the actual moving day)

-  Give your pet lots to drink
-  Feed your pet early

Wrapping things up (ideally on the actual moving day)

-  Double-check the house during the final walk-through
-  Hand over the keys


-  **Keep all your moving receipts**

Moving out of the home or apartment you've been renting (ideally on the actual moving day)





-  **Complete your final rental inspection with your landlord**

Settling In




Get the lay of the land (ideally in the first few weeks after moving in)

-  **Make sure you have access to all facilities**

Setting up your new home (ideally in the first few weeks after moving in)

-  **Decide how you want to organize your home before you unpack**
-  **Unpack**
-  **Pop some bubbly! Moving is not easy work**
-  **Purchase items for your new home**

Taking care of household tasks (ideally in the first few weeks after moving in)




-  **Test smoke alarms**
-  **Change the locks ASAP**
-  **Figure out waste pickup details**

-  Prepare a list of emergency service technicians and preferred providers




Moving with pets (ideally in the first few weeks after moving in)

-  Register your pet

Updating your address (ideally in the first few weeks after moving in)

-  Register to vote at your new address
-  Update your mailing address (if you haven't already)
-  Register your car and change the address on your license

Settling into your new home (ideally in the first few weeks after moving in)

-  Enjoy your new home
-  Meet the neighbors
-  Get involved in your community