



8 Weeks Before:

Get Organized

- Set a moving date.
- Create a filing system for all moving papers: estimates, receipts, health and school records.
- Tell family and friends about your move.
- Get in-home moving estimates from at least 3 moving companies for both moving and packing.
- Notify your landlord.
- Set up appointments with your doctor, dentist, veterinarian, and hair stylist.
- Begin collecting free packing supplies from sites such as craigslist or NextDoor.
- Back up important files on your computer.

6 Weeks Before:

Declutter and Consider Pet Travel

- Go over the floor plan of your new home.
- If furniture doesn't fit in your new home, plan to donate it or sell it.
- Begin decluttering your house by donating unwanted items.
- Take pet(s) to vet for vaccinations, health records and certificates.
- Make travel reservations and contact hotels and/or airlines regarding pet accommodations.
- Contact the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) for new driver's license & registration forms.
- Contact insurance agent for coverage both during and after your move.
- Establish a bank account in your new location. Do not close local accounts yet.

4 Weeks Before:

Confirm Moving Arrangements

- Book a moving company or rent your own moving van. Weekends and holidays book quickly.
- Decide whether to ship or drive your car. If shipping, make arrangements.
- Research parking issues for the moving truck for both sides of the move.
- Do you need a parking permit? Can a large truck reach your home and/or storage facility?
- Hire a baby-sitter for moving day.
- Contact utility companies and delivery services regarding turn-off and turn-on dates.
- Arrange for school records to be transferred to new school district.
- Order moving supplies such as boxes, tape, box cutters, bubble wrap, and permanent markers.

3 Weeks Before:

Pack Up and Change Your Address

- Start packing. The earlier you start, the more organized you'll be. Label everything.
- Set up farewell parties with family and friends at a local park or restaurant.
- Plan a garage sale or finish donating items you no longer need.
- Do car maintenance.
- Arrange for mail forwarding with the U.S. Post Office.
- Schedule appointments with real estate agents or landlords for key exchange of old/new residence.
- Hire a landscaping service for after your move if your house is not sold yet.
- Notify important parties. (See Change of Address Notification Checklist on website).

You're doing amazing. Keep it up!



2 Weeks Before:

Last Minute Errands

- Set up utilities, cable, and alarm in your new location.
- Return all borrowed items to library or friends.
- Pick up any remaining items from dry cleaners.
- Arrange for hazardous waste pickup of old paint cans or gas drained from your power equipment.
- Find homes for plants and/or pets you cannot take with you.
- Re-confirm dates for packing, pickup and delivery with your moving company.
- Settle any outstanding bills.
- Contact your child's school to arrange a visit prior to the first day of school, if possible.

Moving Week:

Eat Chocolate and Other Perishable Goods

- Create a "Moving Day Survival Kit", which includes box cutters, sharpees, snacks and games for kids.
- Consider purchasing or renting a furniture dolly/hand truck to help you on both sides of the move.
- Pack a suitcase for your travels.
- Pack everything except essential items and use paper plates and disposable utensils.
- Give perishable food to family or friends or throw it away.
- Refill prescriptions.
- Empty your freezer, clean it, and dry it out for at least 24 hours before moving day.
- Pack "Need Immediately" boxes, which may include a coffee maker, toilet paper, and light bulbs.
- Enjoy a night out with the people you'll miss the most.

Moving Day

Survival Mode and Bribery

- Bribe loved ones to help you pack up the truck.
- If possible, take kids or pets to a family or friend's house for the day.
- If using movers, oversee the inventory list as well as the packing and loading process.
- Before the movers leave, do a sweep of your house to make sure nothing was left behind.
- Clean your home so you don't lose your rental deposit.
- Meet with your landlord to review the checkout form and receive a refund agreement.
- Leave your keys with your landlord, real estate agent, or the buyers.
- Celebrate that you survived!

Notes:

You did it! Congratulations. May you live happily ever after in your new home. - Ali Wenzke