



weeks
before move

Big picture planning

My Move Date: _____

- ☐ Create a moving file or folder on Google Drive to store quotes and receipts
- ☐ Hire a moving company
- ☐ Create a realistic budget for moving expenses
- ☐ Read over documents from your movers before signing anything
- ☐ Request time off work for moving day
- ☐ Choose a school for your kids
- ☐ Request transcripts for your kids from their old school
- ☐ Purge unwanted belongings and plan a garage sale
- ☐ Plan how to move fragile or unusual items, such as guns, pianos, and fine art
- ☐ Confirm that the moving company you hired is licensed and insured



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Do a little every day

My Move Date: _____

- ☐ Make time for friends and relatives before moving day
- ☐ Collect free boxes from restaurants, liquor stores, and grocery stores
- ☐ Research packing hacks
- ☐ Label moving boxes with different colors for each room
- ☐ Create an inventory sheet of all your valuables
- ☐ Mark moving boxes that are fragile
- ☐ Take photos of all electronics before unplugging them
- ☐ Put all hardware in labeled baggies
- ☐ Gather socks, T-shirts, towels, and linens to pad fragile items
- ☐ If moving into an apartment, find out about any moving day requirements
- ☐ Address minor home repairs before moving out
- ☐ If moving across country, have your vehicles serviced
- ☐ If shipping your car, make sure to empty it
- ☐ Measure doorways, stairways, and elevators to make sure furniture will fit
- ☐ Research your new community for things to do
- ☐ Pack a little every day

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Gather the details

My Move Date: _____

- ☐ Purchase moving insurance to cover all your belongings during the move
- ☐ Confirm parking options for moving truck and check if you need a permit
- ☐ Donate items that can't be packed or sold
- ☐ Gather all financial and legal records in one place
- ☐ Gather birth certificates and passports for everyone
- ☐ Find a new landscaper and snow removal service
- ☐ Return books to library
- ☐ Return movie and/or video game rentals
- ☐ Pick up clothes from the dry cleaner
- ☐ Update your voter registration
- ☐ Compile medical, dental, and optical records for everyone
- ☐ If moving out of town, find a new doctor, dentist, and vet
- ☐ If moving long distance, plan your routes and book hotels
- ☐ Shop around for cable, internet, and phone bundles
- ☐ Make sure pets have updated ID tags for their collars
- ☐ Request copies of vet records, and obtain any necessary pet medication
- ☐ If moving out of the country, make sure pets have all necessary vaccinations
- ☐ Make a moving day playlist to enjoy while moving and unpacking



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Plan for the move day

My Move Date: _____

- ☐ Recycle or dispose of corrosives, flammables, and poisonous items
- ☐ Prepare two-weeks worth of meals, and use everything in the freezer
- ☐ Return borrowed items from friends and family
- ☐ Back up your computer
- ☐ Set up trash removal and recycling for your new home, and cancel your current service
- ☐ Remove light bulbs from all lamps you plan to move
- ☐ Clean out safe deposit box and gym lockers
- ☐ Fill all your prescriptions
- ☐ Prepare a list of emergency service technicians and preferred providers
- ☐ For moving day, line up a babysitter or make arrangements for a playdate
- ☐ Find somewhere safe for pets to go during the move
- ☐ Send out moving announcements
- ☐ Use Google Maps to plan your new route to work by car or public transportation
- ☐ Clean outdoor furniture before it's moved
- ☐ Update your address with:
 - ☐ all financial institutions, and employer
 - ☐ USPS for mail forwarding
 - ☐ all government offices
 - ☐ newspaper and magazine subscriptions
 - ☐ DMV for driver's license
 - ☐ Amazon and monthly subscription boxes
 - ☐ auto insurance and car registration
- ☐ Transfer accounts to new home, including:
 - ☐ homeowners or renters insurance
 - ☐ gym membership—or cancel it
 - ☐ utilities—including water, electricity, and gas
 - ☐ your prescription to a new pharmacy

Final touches for the big day

- ☐ Donate unopened food
- ☐ Make sure scheduled deliveries have been canceled and/or redirected
- ☐ Clean your current home for next residents
- ☐ Unplug the fridge and freezer to defrost the night before
- ☐ Fill nail holes with a bar of soap
- ☐ Drain water hoses to washing machine and ice maker
- ☐ Empty oil and gas from grills, heaters, lawn mowers, and snow blowers
- ☐ Withdraw cash to tip your movers
- ☐ Leave a note or small gift for new residents
- ☐ Conduct a final walkthrough for anything hidden on shelves or in closets
- ☐ Watch the weather channel and be prepared for rain or snow
- ☐ Pack an essentials box with everything you'll need for your first 24 hours in your new home
- ☐ Make a worst-case scenario plan in case your movers run late
- ☐ Take photographs of your empty place to prove it's in move-out condition
- ☐ Thoroughly clean your new place

Moving day

My Move Date: _____

You can do this!

- ☐ Set an alarm and get up early
- ☐ Protect your floor and carpets during move
- ☐ Tip your movers
- ☐ Make your bed and unpack your shower curtain and toiletries
- ☐ Get to know your neighbors
- ☐ Go grocery shopping
- ☐ Cover your windows with sheets for privacy for your first night
- ☐ Thank your real estate agent or broker

Week 1 post move

My Move Date: _____

Finishing up

- ☐ Leave a review for your moving company
- ☐ Post leftover moving boxes or unwanted furniture on Craigslist
- ☐ Clean the carpets in your new home
- ☐ Sweep your chimney before using it
- ☐ Make sure your home's address is visible from the street
- ☐ Install a new home security system
- ☐ Explore your new neighborhood
- ☐ Send thank you notes to friends and family who helped you move
- ☐ Unpack all your belongings within two weeks of moving in
- ☐ Make spare copies of new keys
- ☐ Celebrate!!!