



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!!!