

The Ultimate Moving Checklist

A Complete Step-by-Step Guide for a Smoother Move

Product Guide Series

Published: June 2026

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Moving to a new home can be exciting—but without proper planning, it can also become stressful, expensive, and overwhelming.

This guide was designed to help you stay organized from the earliest planning stages through move-in day and beyond. Use the following checklists, worksheets, and reminders to reduce stress and avoid last-minute surprises.

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Moving Timeline Overview

Use this guide beginning 6–8 weeks before your move.

Key Moving Milestones

- Create moving binder or folder
- Set moving budget
- Hire movers or reserve truck
- Declutter and donate unwanted items

- Notify service providers
 - Transfer utilities
 - Change mailing address
 - Pack strategically
 - Prepare move-day essentials
-

8 Weeks Before Moving

This is planning stage.

Planning Checklist

- Confirm move date
- Decide DIY move vs professional movers
- Gather moving quotes from at least 3 companies
- Create master moving file
- Start budget
- Measure furniture for new home
- Research neighborhood
- Schedule home inspection if purchasing
- Reserve storage if needed

Declutter Checklist

Sort into:

- Keep
- Donate
- Sell
- Trash
- Storage

Ask yourself:

- Have I used this in 12 months?
 - Is it worth moving?
 - Does it fit new space?
-

6 Weeks Before Moving

Time to organize logistics.

Services & Scheduling

- Hire movers
- Confirm moving insurance
- Reserve truck or trailer
- Order packing supplies
- Arrange pet transport
- Arrange vehicle transport if needed
- Request time off from work

Supplies Needed

- Small boxes
 - Medium boxes
 - Large boxes
 - Wardrobe boxes
 - Packing tape
 - Bubble wrap
 - Labels
 - Markers
 - Stretch wrap
 - Mattress covers
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4 Weeks Before Moving

Begin serious packing.

Pack Non-Essentials

Start with:

- Seasonal clothing
- Books
- Decorations
- Collectibles
- Spare linens
- Garage items
- Storage items

Notifications

Notify:

- Bank
 - Credit cards
 - Insurance companies
 - Employer
 - Schools
 - Doctors
 - Pharmacy
 - Attorney
 - Accountant
-

2 Weeks Before Moving

Critical preparation stage.

Utility Transfers

Schedule:

- Electric
- Gas
- Water
- Sewer
- Internet
- Cable
- Security system
- Trash pickup

Record confirmation numbers:

1 Week Before Moving

Final preparation.

Confirm Everything

- Confirm movers
- Confirm truck reservation
- Confirm new address
- Finish most packing

- Defrost freezer
 - Dispose of hazardous items
 - Withdraw cash for tips/emergencies
-

Pack an Essentials Box

Do not load this on truck.

Include:

- Medications
 - Chargers
 - Toiletries
 - Change of clothes
 - Towels
 - Bedding
 - Important documents
 - Snacks
 - Water
 - Cleaning supplies
 - Paper towels
 - Trash bags
-

Moving Day Checklist

Big day.

Before leaving old home:

- Walk every room
- Check closets
- Check attic
- Check basement
- Check cabinets
- Photograph condition
- Turn off lights
- Lock doors/windows
- Leave keys as instructed

At new home:

- Inspect for damage
 - Direct movers by room
 - Confirm box counts
 - Test locks
 - Check utilities
-

First Week After Moving

Settle in.

- Unpack essentials first
 - Test appliances
 - Locate water shutoff
 - Locate breaker panel
 - Replace locks if needed
 - Meet neighbors
 - Register children for school
 - Find nearest hospital/urgent care
 - Update local records
-

Address Change Checklist

Update your mailing address with:

- USPS
 - Banks
 - Credit cards
 - Insurance
 - IRS
 - Employer
 - Payroll
 - Social Security
 - Retirement accounts
 - Subscriptions
 - Online shopping accounts
-

Packing Tips Room-by-Room

Kitchen

- Wrap dishes individually
- Pack plates vertically
- Use towels for padding

Bedroom

- Use wardrobe boxes
- Pack jewelry separately
- Label bedding

Bathroom

- Seal liquids in bags
- Discard expired items

Office

- Back up computer files
- Secure documents

Moving Budget Worksheet

Expense	Estimated	Actual
Movers	_____	_____
Truck Rental	_____	_____
Packing Supplies	_____	_____
Deposits	_____	_____
Cleaning	_____	_____
Travel	_____	_____
Hotels	_____	_____
Storage	_____	_____
Miscellaneous	_____	_____

Total Estimated Cost: _

Total Actual Cost: _

Emergency Contacts

Mover Contact: _____

Landlord / Agent: _____

Utility Emergency: _____

Family Contact: _____

Insurance Claim Contact: _____

Final Moving Tips

Successful moves come down to preparation.

Remember:

- ✓ Start early
- ✓ Declutter aggressively
- ✓ Label everything
- ✓ Keep essentials accessible
- ✓ Confirm services in writing
- ✓ Expect minor surprises

The more organized you are before moving day, the easier your transition will be.

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Publication ID: MC-2026-01

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