



COUNTDOWN to MOVING

8 WEEKS BEFORE THE MOVE

	Schedule at least 3 moving companies to provide estimates.
	Obtain and fill out Change of Address form online or at your local post office (if you don't know the new address, save the form in a safe place for future use. However, it's best to fill out the form as quickly as possible, so that it doesn't get misplaced during the move).
	Survey the contents of your home and begin to get rid of items that will not be going with you.
	If applicable, I can refer to you to a Realtor® in your new town to determine what type of housing options will best suit your needs and budget and request destination information on your new city.
	Make sure air conditioning and any appliances you're leaving behind are in good working condition.
	Clean the garage.
	Get rid of anything you don't want to move. Consider having a garage sale.
	Contact lender to obtain mortgage. Schedule closing with attorney. Consider Choice Home Warranty for peace of mind protection.

7 WEEKS BEFORE THE MOVE

	Contact your local clothing and furniture donation point(s) and determine your pickup/drop off options.
	Begin cleaning out your closet and ask your family members to do the same.
	If you've already found a new home, contact the utility companies in your new area and arrange for service upon arrival.
	Look for doctors in your new area. Make a list of those you are interested in so that you can meet them in person upon arrival.
	Begin eating the food that's in your freezer and cupboards.

6 WEEKS BEFORE THE MOVE

	If you've been using a local email service, notify your contacts about your impending change of email address.
	Consider creating a free email account and having your email forwarded there, so that your contacts will be able to contact you during the transition (you may even prefer to use this email address for an extended period of time as you can take it with you if you move again).
	Notify friends and family of your new address (if you already have a new home address).
	Go to the post office and arrange for your mail to be forwarded to your new location.
	If applicable, book an appointment with your pet's veterinarian to make sure that you have all required vaccinations and records.
	Begin organizing your important documents (and identifying any location-sensitive lost documents that you may want to replace before the move, such as a lost marriage certificate).
	If some of your goods are to be stored, make the necessary arrangements now.
	Contact the IRS and/or your accountant for information on what moving expenses may be tax deductible. If you're moving at an employer's request, verify what expenses and responsibilities are theirs and which are yours.



5 WEEKS BEFORE THE MOVE

	Select a mover and book a date for the move. If you are self-moving, book a moving van.
	Contact your insurance provider to make sure your belongings are covered during the move. If not, find out what the mover covers. Their basic insurance probably insures items by the pound, which is not enough.
	Have an appraisal of expensive items you want shipped by the mover.
	Arrange for supplemental moving insurance if desired.
	If you've refinanced recently, make sure everything has been recorded with regard to that mortgage.
	Vacant house- if you have to move before you've sold your old house, check your insurance company for any insurance requirements. Insurance companies don't like to insure vacant houses.
	Contact schools, doctors, dentists, lawyers, and accountants and obtain copies of personal records. Ask for referrals where possible.
	When relevant, book a flight to your new location. Be mindful that closing dates may change so, if flying, allow yourself some flexibility if the closing is postponed. If you are driving, plan your route. If necessary, arrange for hotels along the way.
	Arrange for magazine subscriptions to be delivered to your new address.
	When moving far away, cancel your newspaper subscription(s). If moving locally, arrange for delivery to your new home. Make a list of all companies who will need to know of your change of address and begin contacting them.
	Start packing items that are not used frequently.
	Make a list of furniture that will not fit into your new space and start planning ways to get rid of it.



COUNTDOWN *to* MOVING

4 WEEKS BEFORE THE MOVE

	Submit a change of address form to the U.S. Postal Service.
	Make a list of everything that will be packed in your hand-luggage and make sure that you will have enough room (both in your luggage and, when relevant, in the trunk of your car).
	Have car inspected if traveling by car. Locate all auto licensing and registration documents.
	Get a copy of your health records and keep it with your important documents.
	Arrange for utilities to be shut down (or for the accounts to be transferred to their new owners) on the evening after the move or the next day. This includes: electricity, gas, phone, Internet and water. Make sure that they will not disconnect your utilities while you are still moving.
	Contact your alarm company to cancel service for after the move.

3 WEEKS BEFORE THE MOVE

	When relevant, arrange for daycare on moving day.
	Check oft-forgotten areas (such as the garage, attic and basement) for things you may have forgotten to pack. Give away plants if you're not taking them with you.
	Arrange the transfer of any automatic deposits and/or withdrawals from your old account to your new account.
	Contact the Department of Motor Vehicles regarding your change of address if moving within the state.
	If necessary, arrange for a storage unit to accommodate your things until your new home will be ready.
	If you are driving a long distance, create a playlist of songs to enjoy during the trip. Alternatively, purchase several audio books to keep you focused during the drive.



2 WEEKS BEFORE THE MOVE

	Enlist friends to help relieve the stress of last minute packing.
	Make arrangements for a place to stay if closing day is after you have vacated the house.
	Draft a meal plan for your final week to use up whatever food is left without purchasing new items.

1WEEK BEFORE THE MOVE

	Confirm moving date and details with the moving company.
	Close your bank account and arrange for bank checks to deposit money in your new bank. If possible, wire your money directly into your new bank account.
	Get a bank check to pay the mover if necessary and certified funds for closing, if applicable.
	Empty your safe deposit box and return the key. Make sure to keep your valuables with you or in a safe place.
	Finish packing whatever items the moving company will not be packing.



COUNTDOWN *to* MOVING

MOVING DAY

	Unplug all appliances that you are leaving behind.
	Pack all last minute items.
	Lock all windows and doors.
	Set thermostat properly.
	Perform a final inspection on your old home to make sure that you didn't forget to pack any items or to disconnect any appliances.
	If some of your goods are to be stored, make the necessary arrangements now.
	Review the bill of lading very carefully before the truck driver leaves.
	Leave keys, garage door openers, appliance manuals, etc. for new owner.
	Complete review.
	BEGIN THE NEXT EXCITING CHAPTER IN YOUR LIFE.



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