

Moving Checklist

Eliminate moving stress! This quick and easy checklist will help you track dozens of details on your upcoming move or relocation.



Austin Title

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Several Weeks Prior to Move:

- Have a garage sale to dispose of unwanted items.
- Donate unwanted clothing or household goods to charitable organizations. Obtain receipts showing the items' approx. value for possible tax deductions.
- Begin to use up supplies of canned goods, frozen foods and other household items. Buy only what will be used before moving.
- Return library books and anything borrowed from friends or neighbors, and collect things you may have loaned.
- Review your relocation package if you have one, and determine what expenses will be paid by your company.
- Start a log of moving expense receipts (some may be tax deductible).
- Get written estimates from moving companies. Check the limits of insurance they offer, and if it covers replacement cost.

Prior to Moving Day:

- Confirm with your employer that you're scheduled to be off on moving day.
- Purchase supplies like packing tape, bubble wrap and furniture pads, Boxes, boxes, boxes!
- Drain fuel from your power mower and other machinery.
- Pack "Open First" Boxes. For each room you pack, set aside one box that contains everything you'll need the first few days in your new home. Label the boxes "Open First" so that these will be the first boxes you unload.
- Finish taking apart furniture that needs to be disassembled.
- Sort out any plants you're taking.
- Check that all the paperwork related to your house sale/purchase is complete.
- Close bank accounts if necessary.
- Finish your major packing.
- Pack up your computer and electrical equipment. Write down serial numbers.
- Make sure all boxes are clearly marked/labelled.
- Start cleaning the house as you go.
- Make sure you have all the documents related to your move on hand.

Begin making a "Survival Box" for the move. This should include paper, pens, stamps, envelopes, cellophane & heavy duty tape, scissors, tape measure, paper cups, ziplock bags, paper plates & towels, plastic utensils, facial & toilet tissue, instant coffee or tea, cream/sugar, soap, moist towelettes, aspirin, bandaids, can opener, bottled water, travel alarm, flashlight, small tools kit, trash bags, snacks or drinks, children's games, address book, spare car keys, phone books for the city you are leaving and your destination.

- Check in with the movers and confirm the start time of your move.
- Have measurements taken of the rooms in your new place to determine where everything will go.

And Don't Forget to:

- Defrost freezer/refrigerator. Place charcoal to dispel odors.
- Have appliances serviced for moving.
- Plan special care needs of infants, children, seniors, pets and potted plants.
- Clean out club, gym and school lockers; pick up all dry cleaning.
- Check all closets, cabinets and rooms to make sure you didn't leave anything. Take out the garbage. Lock the windows.
- Leave all keys and garage door openers needed by new owner. Leave a note with your contact information for the new owners.

And On Moving Day, Don't Forget:

- Before you load a single item, check the truck, trailer, or portable container for cracks, leaks, or other signs of wear. Raise any concerns with the movers.
- It's easiest to load the truck if you have everything organized in a pre-designated order. Load first items you need the least, and load "Open First" boxes last.
- Carry currency, jewelry, and documents yourself, or use registered mail.
- Check thermostat and make sure temperature is set appropriately.

At New Home:

- Be on hand to accept delivery. If you cannot be there personally, be sure you authorize an adult to be your representative to accept deliver and pay charges.
- Place a floor plan of your new home by the entrance to help movers determine where each piece of furniture should go.
- Give the kids a job to do - let them start on their rooms. Usually, the kitchen and the kids rooms are the best to set up first, as it helps them feel at home.
- Supervise moving crew on location of furniture and boxes. Begin unpacking necessary basics first - basic kitchen utensils, bath toiletries, etc.
- Check to make sure all utilities are on and working properly.

Send Change of Address to:

- Alumni associations
- Attorneys
- Banks (auto loans, checking accounts, credit cards, home equity, mortgage, safe deposit box, savings account)
- Cell phone provider
- Child care/daycare
- City/County Tax Assessor
- Credit bureaus
- Credit card issuers
- Department of Motor Vehicles
- Dry cleaning pick-up and delivery
- Employer
- Family members
- Health clubs
- Health: medical, dental, prescription histories. Ask doctor and dentist for referrals, transfer needed prescriptions, x-rays. Contact pharmacies.
- House cleaning service and lawn care
- Insurance coverage: life, health, fire, and auto.
- Magazine and newspaper subscriptions
- New business cards
- Passport
- Pet sitter/ dog walker/ pet day care
- Post office (give forwarding address)
- Professional organizations
- Retirement plan holders
- Schools/Parent-teacher association (ask for copies or transfer records.)
- Social Security Administration
- State/Federal Tax Bureaus and accountant/tax preparer
- Swimming pool maintenance/memberships
- Utility companies: gas, light, water, telephone, fuel and cable
- Veterinarian (pet licenses, vaccinations, tags, etc)
- Veterans Administration

