# MOVING TIPS



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The key to a successful move is to plan well ahead. Once you've identified your move date, use this checklist to help make your move as smooth as possible.

## **8 WEEKS BEFORE THE MOVE**

- ☐ If moving yourself, get estimates for a moving truck and make a reservation.
- ☐ If using a moving company, hire one with good references. It should be licensed/bonded and have workers' compensation insurance. Ask about discounts, get estimates in writing and make a reservation. If using movers to pack, schedule at least two days before the move.
- ☐ Create a file for receipts and important information needed during the move.

## **7 WEEKS BEFORE THE MOVE**

- ☐ Gather copies of legal, medical, dental, financial and pet immunization records for your move file.
- ☐ Arrange to transfer school and veterinarian records.
- ☐ Contact health clubs and organizations to cancel or transfer memberships.

## **6 WEEKS BEFORE THE MOVE**

- ☐ Begin purging your home. Decide what to keep, discard, sell or donate.
- ☐ Plan a garage sale.
- Use up household products you don't want to move.

## **5 WEEKS BEFORE THE MOVE**

- ☐ Arrange for storage, if needed.
- Submit a "Change of Address" form to the post office.
- Arrange for necessary repairs to your current home.

## **4 WEEKS BEFORE THE MOVE**

- ☐ Host a garage sale and donate unsold items.
- If moving yourself, determine how many boxes you will need.
- ☐ Arrange to cancel, transfer or initiate utility services.

## **3 WEEKS BEFORE THE MOVE**

- ☐ Gather moving supplies:
- \_\_ Boxes \_\_\_ Newspaper
- \_\_ Labels \_\_\_ Nylon string and rope
- Packing tape \_\_\_ Styrofoam peanuts
- Scissors \_\_\_ Furniture pads
- \_\_ Bubble wrap \_\_\_ Utility knife
- ☐ Pack items that won't be used prior to the move. Clearly label each box with its contents and the room for which it is destined.
- ☐ Make hotel reservations and travel arrangements for pets, if needed.

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### **2 WEEKS BEFORE THE MOVE**

- ☐ Transfer bank accounts to new branches, and cancel payment arrangements on accounts you're closing.
- ☐ Cancel or transfer delivery services and subscriptions.
- □ Notify legal, medical, dental, financial, insurance and home maintenance professionals; schools; and government offices (tax assessor, state vehicle registration, Social Security, IRS and VA) of your move.
- ☐ Give friends and family your new address.
- ☐ Confirm parking for your moving truck or container. Obtain permits, if needed.

## **1 WEEK BEFORE THE MOVE**

- Arrange for a sitter to care for your children while you are packing or moving, if needed.
- ☐ Fill prescriptions you will need during the move, and transfer maintenance medications to a pharmacy near your new home.
- ☐ Add copies of your driver's license, vehicle registration and insurance to your move file.

### **2 DAYS BEFORE THE MOVE**

- ☐ Have payment ready for the moving truck or company.
- ☐ Set aside items that should travel with you: valuables, changes of clothes and your move file.
- ☐ Pack your shipment. Load goods in a predesignated order, saving "last load" items for the rear of the shipment.
- ☐ Empty and defrost your refrigerator.

## **MOVING DAY**

- ☐ If moving yourself, pick up the truck as early as possible.
- ☐ If using a moving company, read the conditions before signing the "Mover Agreement," and add it and your bill of lading to your move file. Supervise movers and give them a contact number to reach you.
- ☐ Create a list of every item loaded onto the truck.
- ☐ Conduct a final walk-through of every room, including closets, attic and garage, to make sure nothing is left behind. Turn off the water and all appliances.
- ☐ Leave future tenants a note with your new address so they can forward stray mail.
- ☐ Lock all windows and doors.

## **DELIVERY DAY**

- ☐ Make sure utilities are connected and appliances work before moving in.
- ☐ Gather essential first-day items:
- \_\_ Cleaning supplies \_\_ Snacks and drinks
- \_\_ Toilet paper \_\_\_ Paper plates and plastic-ware
- \_\_ Scissors \_\_ Cups and mugs
- \_\_ Masking tape \_\_ Writing utensils and paper
- \_\_ Trash bags \_\_ Basic toiletries
- ☐ Clean your new home.
- ☐ Refer to your list to check off items as they come off the truck.
- ☐ Install new locks.
- ☐ Unpack and enjoy your new home!

