

The Ultimate 2018 Homeowners & Renters Moving Checklist

Moving is a tedious process. It takes time and planning to get everything done in a timely fashion. Therefore, this 2018 moving checklist will help you move easily and efficiently.

8-7 Weeks Before the Move:

8 Weeks Before

Give Your Insurance Agent a Call

- Your PGI agent can help redefine the insurance policies you will need when moving to your new home. Also, this agent will be able to introduce you to a new PGI agent, if that is necessary.

Discuss Your Moving Strategy

- Remember, the more decisions you make early on, the smoother the moving will be. The type of thoughts that should be circling around inside your mind at eight weeks are as follows: Are you hiring movers or asking your friends to help you move? Is the move going to take place during the week or on the weekend? Does the preferred timing match up with the people who are willing to help you move?

Additionally, deciding where belongings will go via your new home's floor plan is a good way to help organize the move.

Consider Your Money Flow

- Always keep the amount of money you're spending on the move itself in mind. If you're planning to hire movers, call different companies for estimates and ask about moving insurance. After all, the process of moving can be stressful on valuables. So, you want to make sure they're protected.

7 Weeks Before

Meet With Movers or the Friends Who Will Be Helping You Move

- The typical moving company will visit you at home to accurately estimate the cost and time needed to move your items. This might take a little while, as if you're hiring professionals, you're going to want to meet with several companies. This will give you a better idea about the cost and service you will be provided.

For those of you who decide to have friends help with the move, meet with them. During this meeting, come up with a plan. Explain what you would like them to help you with and get suggestions.

Record Transfers

- Whether you're moving down the road or across the country, starting the record-transferring process is always long and arduous. Thus, the sooner you start, the sooner you'll finish. This means the it's less you'll have to worry about closer to moving day.

To begin this process, gather medical and dental records, to find a doctor close to your new home. For children, get their school records transferred to the new they will be attending and send all the important documents.

The Packing Process

- Moving to a new house is an opportunity to start anew. This provides the perfect opportunity to go through all the clutter. The first part of the packing process is to decide what's coming to the new house and what you should part with. Whether you choose to donate, sell, or throw away certain items, it's often a lot easier not to bring them to your new home. Having a moving sale to or donating items to a local charity is a good way to feel as though your former belongings aren't going to waste. Plus, if you do donate your items, keep the receipt for taxes.

6- 5 Weeks Before the Big Day

6 Weeks Before

Confirm a Date with Movers or Friends

- It's better to confirm early than to be scrambling closer to moving day. If you're choosing to use a moving company, select the date around the schedule that's the cheapest, if that's possible. Some movers offer discounted rates on certain days or times of the month. Check into that to get the best rate possible.

If you're having friends help you, make sure they're all able to clear their schedule for you on the day you choose to move. Also, ensure that you provide food and drinks for the whole day, to thank them for their help.

Pack Your Valuables

- Make sure that all your valuables are protected. It's recommended that for extremely valuable items, you keep them with you on your person, or you mail them, with insurance, to your new home.

Change Address

- Changing your address is simple. Yet, if done early enough, it can save a major headache later. You can change your address online at the USPS website, or at any post office.

5 Weeks Before

Start Packing: Get Supplies

- This is the time to think about general packing supplies. Having plenty of packing tape, bubble wrap, furniture pads, mattress protectors, and of course, boxes, will lead to a stress-free packing experience.

Use What Can't be Brought

- There are certain items in a home that are easier to use than pack, donate, or even throw away. Food, such as steaks or other celebration meals are on this list. Additionally, cleaning supplies should be used or thrown out in this week. After all, it's much easier to buy new cleaning supplies than use up a moving box.

Considering a Storage Unit

- If you aren't moving right away, or you aren't sure exactly where everything is going to go in the new home, having a storage unit can help lighten the moving load. Plus, you can use a temporary storage for newly purchased furniture and other belongings as you build your new life.

Month – 3 Weeks Prior to Moving

4 Weeks Before

Transfer Utilities

- Figure out when it would be best to disconnect all utilities at your current home and connect all the utilities at your new home. These dates are extremely contingent on the specifics of the selling and buying parameters. However, ultimately, when connecting utilities, make sure they are turned on a day before you arrive. This will help the moving process go smoothly. Also, don't forget to collect your utility deposits and make sure your home is protected with [homeowners insurance](#). If you don't have this in place, you can buy a [homeowners insurance policy online](#) in minutes.

Consider Pets

- The life of a pet is going to change drastically as well, when their owners move. Therefore, it's important that they are taken care of. Ensure that any medications your pet needs are on hand and find a good vet close to your new home. Also, make sure to transfer your pet's medical records to your new vet. Plus, don't forget to make travel arrangements for the days you'll be moving. This will minimize the stress the move will have on your pet.

Consider Your Car

- There are many options for getting your car where it needs to go during the move. If you're planning on shipping the car to your new home, research auto shipping and make sure your [auto insurance](#) is solid. Apply the same referencing and enquiry tactics to car shipping as you did when researching the right moving company. Additionally, for those of you who are moving to a different state, register your car at your new address and get a state license plate shortly after the move.

3 Weeks Before

Label Boxes With Essential Content For Your New Home

- When packing each room, piece together boxes that should be opened first when you move into your new home. These boxes should include the essentials for the new house; silverware, place settings, the remote for the television, and cleaning supplies.

Get Non-Essential Items Out of Your Way First

- Go through the house and pack away everything you don't need. This will help remove the clutter and leave you with only the essentials. That way, the house won't seem so overwhelming.

Consider Hard-To-Pack Items

- Comb your house and find items that are hard to pack. Plants are a great example of a difficult item to pack. Basically, anything flammable or hazardous will be difficult to pack. Therefore, it's important to either use them up, dispose of them appropriately, or give them away.

3-2 Weeks to Go!

3 Weeks Before

Find Closure

- Even though moving is often an exciting time, there's also bouts of sadness attached to it. After all, moving means that you and your family are leaving years of memories and friends behind. Therefore, it's important to come to terms with this. Make sure you and your kids visit the places that make you happy and the friends you'll be leaving behind. It might even be nice to host one last get-together or farewell party to find closure and say goodbye.

Prepare To Move Big Items

- Figure out a plan for moving and cleaning bigger items. Get a service technician, if needed, to prepare major appliances for the move. Also, clean rugs and draperies. However, don't clean upholstered furniture. With it being in storage during the move, moisture from the clean could turn into mold. Instead, protect furniture with covers. Take necessary precautions to ensure items aren't in storage for longer than they need to be.

Make Travel Arrangements

- If the move will take longer than a day, don't forget to secure travel plans. This will space out the trip, giving you an accurate destination and travel time per day. This will help keep everyone well-rested and excited throughout the journey.

2 Weeks Before

Take Time Off to Move

- Do not try to move and work in the same day. Even if the move is in the same town, try to take moving day off at least. This will give you time to move out and settle into your new home without having to worry about work.

Find a Local Bank Account Branch

- Banks are often taken advantage of, in that they're always close, until you move. Then, you realize how convenient it was to have a bank close to your house. Therefore, before you move, find a branch close to your home. If there isn't one, find a new bank that is closer to your new home. Before you leave your old bank though, clean out safe deposit boxes and update your online bill pay accounts.

Get a Tune Up Done on Your Car

- Change the oil, inflate the tires, and check under the hood before moving with your car. Doing a tune up on your car prior to moving day helps ensure that everything will run smoothly.

Moving Day & Arriving at Your New Home

1 Week Before

Pack the Essentials

- Pack a couple suitcases that are set apart from the rest of the moving items, so there is no pressure to find items immediately after the move. Clothes, toiletries and medications, and a few of your kids' favorite toys should be put in these suitcases. That way, your new house can start to feel like home as soon as possible.

Prepare Appliances for Transport

- Appliances are something that people tend to forget about until the last minute. However, this can prove to be problematic. To avoid the possibility of creating an issue, empty, defrost and clean your refrigerator the day before you move. Also, unplug all electronics the day before the move. If computers are being moved, make sure that they, along with other fragile electronics are handled with care.

Check the Details of Moving Day with Movers Or Friends

- Confirm the details of moving day with friends and/or the movers. Make sure that everyone involved knows the plan and timing. Also, ensure that everyone has both the current and new address. That way, there's less chance for confusion on the day of the move.

Moving Day & Arriving at Your New Home

Moving Day

Remain Reachable

- Whether you're waiting for movers or friends, stay close to home. If there's a reason that you need to leave, keep your cellphone with you. That way, you're able to answer any questions and generally be available if you're needed.

Check Before You Load

- Before officially starting to load the moving vehicles, check for leaks, cracks, or signs that the vehicles might prove to be problematic. If there seems like there might be an issue, ask the movers or the rental company about it.

Loading Up

- Loading the truck is made much easier if you have a plan for everything once you arrive at your new home. Regardless of your plan, though, it's easiest to load the items that you don't need right away in the back. Therefore, the boxes that are most essential will be unloaded first.

Closing Up the House

- Before you leave, do a final walkthrough to ensure you packed everything you intend to take with you. Go through all the closets and cabinets in every room and recheck the attic and garage. Once the house is secure, take out any remaining garbage and lock up. Also, leaving a note with your contact information for the new owners is always a great way to welcome the new owners.

Arriving At Your New Home!

There's a good chance that you will make it to your new home before the movers. When you get there, check that all the utilities are connected. Plus, it's always good to have your credit or debit card on hand including a little tip money to pay the movers.