

[Please note that points marked by ° refer to an option of choosing a moving company over DIY for your relocation]

8 weeks before you move:

- Create a “cloud” (Google Drive, Dropbox) to keep track of quotes and receipts.
- Do your research on your preferred move method (DIY/moving company)
- Contact and schedule on-site visits/phone calls with moving companies. °
- Come up with a realistic budget for your relocation expenses.
- Read over documents from your movers before signing anything. °
- Double-check your availability during the moving day (getting off work, taking care of the kids etc.)
- Choose a new school for your kids. (Or let them choose :)
- Request transcripts from the old school before leaving.
- Plan a garage sale or a Craigslist posting getting rid of unwanted items.
- Plan on moving fragile or unusual items, such as fine art, large bulky items, antiques etc.
- Confirm that the moving company you hired is licensed and insured. °

6 weeks before you move:

- Q Get free boxes from grocery stores nearby, friends or these portals (uboxes.com, usedcardboardboxes.com)
- Q Get advice and tips on packing.
- Q Create different labels or markings for your boxes depending on the room/origin.
- Q Create a list of all your belongings moved to keep track of everything.
- Q Pack all fragile items in separate heavy-duty boxes together. (don't forget to specifically mark them)
- Q Put all your hardware and electronics in labeled bins or crates.
- Q Use towels, t-shirts and linens to use as packing supplies for fragile things.
- Q Find out all essential details for your move-in (obtaining a COI [certificate of insurance], reserving parking spot/loading dock etc.) ◦
- Q Take care of needed repairs or cosmetic solutions before moving out (you want the full security deposit back, don't you?)
- Q If moving across the state lines, take care of your vehicles' maintenance.
- Q If you plan on shipping your car, make sure to take everything out of it beforehand.
- Q Note the doorways, stairways and elevators dimensions to make sure your furniture will fit through.

4 weeks before you move:



Consider purchasing moving insurance to safeguard your move. °



Figure out parking options for your truck – you may need a permit and/or loading dock reserved for a specific time.



Get rid of the remaining unwanted items (sell/donate).



Have all legal paperwork kept in one place.



Return your library books, etc. (any due rentals).



Take care of medical (general, dental and optical) records for your family and you.



If not moving locally, find suitable replacements (family doctor, dentist, vet, lawyer etc.



If not moving locally, plan your route (car, plane, etc.) and book your lodging if applicable.



Research best deals for cable, internet and phone.



Request copies of vet records and take care of needed vaccinations, if any.



Make a moving day playlist to enjoy while moving and/or packing/unpacking.

2 weeks before you move:

- Q Recycle flammables, poisons and items not permitted for relocation.
- Q Make sure to consume or dispose of everything in the freezer.
- Q Back up your computer system, iCloud, Google Drive etc.
- Q Set up recycling services for your new place and cancel the subscription for a present one.
- Q Remove light bulbs from all lamps or chandeliers you plan to move.
- Q Clean out your gym locker, deposit box etc.
- Q Take care of all your prescriptions with a current doctor.
- Q Look up a babysitter or make arrangements to take care of your kid(s).
- Q Use Google Maps for all new routes and basic navigation purposes.
- Q Inform your friends and family about the move.
- Q Change billing/shipping address with all financial institutions/shopping platforms/your employer.
- Q Forward your mail.



Transfer your homeowners and/or renter's insurance to your new place.



Cancel or transfer your gym membership.



Transfer your utilities (water, heating, gas, electricity).



Update your driver's license information (if applicable).



Change your address for your auto insurance and car registration.



Take care of any outdoor furniture and/or miscellaneous items.

The week you move:

- Q Make sure to get rid of any extra food (opened/unopened).
- Q Double check the scheduled deliveries – cancel or redirect them to your new home.
- Q Clean up not to be in a rush during the move.
- Q Unplug your fridge and/or freezer to make sure they defrost before you leave.
- Q Drain water from your washing machine.
- Q Empty oil and gas tanks in your lawn mower, grill, heater, bike etc.
- Q Leave a small welcoming gift for new residents.
- Q Perform a final check for items in closets, basement or anywhere hidden.
- Q Fill nail holes in the wall with the solution (or bar soap if on low budget).
- Q Be prepared for any weather conditions the day before (double-check the forecasts).
- Q Pack a “first responder’s” kit (box with essential for first 48 hours at new home).
- Q Make needed arrangements for the worst-case scenario (movers running late, extra charges etc.) ◦
- Q Take pictures of the empty place as a proof for your landlord.
- Q Have cash (other preferred methods like check, money order etc.) ready to pay and tip the movers. ◦

MOVING DAY



Set an alarm to get up early for any unfinished essentials before the move.



Protect your floors during the move, if needed (blankets, masonite, etc.)



Tip your movers (in case of a same-day delivery). ◦



Double-check the paperwork when finishing up with the movers and covering the bill. ◦



Unpack the essentials (bed sheets, window curtains, toiletries etc.)



Shop for groceries.



Get back to your moving company on the phone for the feedback. ◦



Finish the business with your real estate agent/broker.



Have a shower and relax with a drink of your choosing :)

One week, post move:



Leave a review for your moving company (Yelp/Facebook/Google etc.). ◦



Post your used boxes and any unwanted items on Craigslist.



Clean up your new place (clean the dust, check the basement, break the curse :)



Make sure your home address is visible from the street (for mailman, milkman, your aunt).



Install/set up a security system in your home.



Explore the neighborhood!



Don't forget to thank friends and family who helped you move.

Two weeks, post move:



Unpack all your items within two weeks.



Make new copies of the keys for your family and yourself.



Done with the moving checklist? Good luck with your new home and best wishes from BestMoving!