



The Ultimate Moving Checklist

By RPS Relocation

1 FINDING A NEW PLACE

We'll assume you've already done this, but if not, here's a few pointers to get you going.

- Try these websites if you're renting: Trulia.com or Zillow.com
OR: try an apartment locator service like UMoveFree.com in Texas
- Try these websites if you're buying: Realtor.com, HomeFinder.com
OR: hire a local realtor to help you find a home

2 COMPARE YOUR OPTIONS

Often times movers are hurried into finding a new place. Take a moment to check your options.

- Check out the crime in the area of your options using this website:
<http://www.spotcrime.com/>
- Check out the internet options available to you at all of your possible new homes on this website: <http://www.broadbandmap.gov/>
- Use a tool like this one to check gas prices near your possible new homes
<http://www.gasbuddy.com/>

TIP: You can use OpenStreetMap or Google maps to get distance information and calculate the change in your fuel costs.

- Compare the local schools for your options on this site:
<http://www.greatschools.org/>

3 PACKING

Packing can be a cumbersome process for many. Often it starts off well and ends in a hurried rush. This list will help you pack up for your move in an orderly fashion. You can read our recommended packing supplies list by size of home and number of people here:

- Purchase the following
 - Boxes
 - Labels
 - Markers
 - Plastic wrap
 - Furniture slides
- Start by packing away items from your bedroom closets.
- A week before your moving date set aside clothing and essentials for the rest of the week, possibly packing them in luggage.
- Finish packing your bedrooms up leaving essentials and current bedding.
- Two days before your move wrap all of your furniture in plastic wrap. – movers will do this for you most likely.
- Two days before your move pack up all small kitchen appliances and dishware.
- Two days before moving, pack up all bathroom items except needed medicines and essentials such as tooth paste, tooth brushes, deodorant, 1 shower towel per person, and toilet paper.

4 MOVING

- Decide how you're going to move to your new place.
 - Your vehicle with friends help
 - Friends vehicle with you
 - Rented vehicle with friends
 - Moving company
- At least three weeks before moving make sure you ask off for any time you'll need for work.
- Two weeks before your move, contact your utility providers to move services or setup new services:
 - Electricity
 - Water / Trash
 - Gas
 - Broadband internet
 - Cable / Satellite TV
 - Landline phone
- Moving Day – Double check to make sure your moving boxes are all labeled correctly
 - All Fragile boxes labeled
 - Rooms labeled correctly
- Take dated photos of all furniture, large electronics such as TVs, art work, expensive rugs, and other high dollar items to show their condition before the move. This will help if there's an unfortunate accident during your move.
- Watch the movers – If you're using a moving company they should wrap all furniture in plastic wrap (if you didn't) and use furniture blankets and pads inside their truck.
- Point out any fragile boxes, expensive paintings, or expensive clothing. Ask the movers / your friends to be extra careful with these things. Paintings, fragiles, and clothing should never be packed on the bottom of a truck but on top or inside the cab of a vehicle.
- Unload everything, setting boxes in their assigned rooms keeping fragiles up off of the floor and finish with large furniture.



5 POST-MOVE

Once you've safely got everything moved in there's still stuff to do before you're completely done with your move.

5.1 UNPACKING

- Setup bed frames, add mattress / box springs, and make bedding first so if you or other family members are tired from the stressful weeks prior they can rest.
- Move family portraits, paintings, wall shelves, and anything else you'll hang on the walls next to the walls you want to hang them on.
- Make sure boxes are out of the way creating a walk path throughout your new home to avoid any kicking boxes or falling over.
- Unpack your bathroom necessities second and hangup your shower curtain. You should have thrown out your old shower curtain liner, so make sure to purchase a new one.
- Unwrap the plastic off of all dressers and place the drawers in them.
- Unpack most clothing placing them in dressers and hanging them up.
- You should have most of your furniture and kitchen stuff left now, unpack all of this in order of need.

5.2 UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS

Now that you're sort of moved and settled in a little it's time to update your information.

- The most important address update is the US Postal service. This helps ensure that your mail. You can fill out a card at the post office or go to this website: <https://www.mymove.com/change-of-address.html>
- Updating your Driver's License address is second most important. In most states it's illegal to drive more than 14 days after your move with the wrong address on your license.
- Update your address with your bank and credit card companies.
- Update your address with online services such as PayPal, Amazon, eBay, and Overstock.
- Update your address with subscription retail services such as Manpacks, Loot Crate, Birch Box, Dollar Shave Club, Dollar Beard Club, and Trunk Club



- ❑ Update your address with medical service providers such as doctors, dentists, and veterinarians. Ask for recommendations on new providers if you've moved too far away.
- ❑ Update your address with your HR and/or Payroll department at work. This should update your address with any company paid for providers like health insurance or 401k retirement accounts.
- ❑ Take photos of your new place and announce your move on the social media site / app of your choice, but NEVER GIVE OUT YOUR ADDRESS PUBLICLY.

Make sure to not get too stressed out. Moving is a stressful process for everyone. Once you get moved in take some time out and relax. Go out for a celebratory dinner with your family, get a massage by yourself, or grab a drink with friends.