

Moving Checklist for Homeowners

What should I do to prepare for my move?

Moving in Texas comes with extra steps. This homeowner checklist helps you plan each stage of your move, from budgeting and booking movers to setting up utilities and handling post-move tasks.

Use it to stay organized and help make move-in day easier.

[Schedule Flexible Move-In or transfer your current service](#)

8 weeks before moving day: planning early and staying organized

- Set a realistic moving budget that includes movers, deposits, utility setup, cleaning, repairs and overlap costs if your closing dates do not line up
- Start decluttering and packing a little at a time so the process feels more manageable
- Research your new neighborhood, including nearby grocery stores, medical providers, schools and emergency services
 - ✓ Create a private inventory of valuables and where they are packed
 - ✓ Make time to see friends and family before the move if you are relocating
 - ✓ Create a moving playlist and plan easy snacks or takeout to make packing days smoother
- Research your new neighborhood:
 - ✓ Grocery stores, medical providers, transit, schools (if applicable)
 - ✓ Nearest police, fire and emergency services
 - ✓ Make time to see friends and family before the move
 - ✓ Create a moving playlist to make packing more fun

6 weeks before moving day: book movers and prep your home

- Research and compare moving companies, then verify they are registered with the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles
- Ask movers about insurance coverage, extra fees, payment methods and experience with homeowner moves on tight timelines
- Review your sale contract and complete any agreed repairs or cleaning requirements before the final walkthrough
- Schedule electricity for your new home early and compare plan options if your address is in a deregulated area
- Set up other home services, including natural gas, water, internet, trash and recycling

4 weeks before moving day: update records and schedule essentials

- Schedule electricity, water, gas, internet and home security so service is ready when you move in
- File and secure important records, including medical, dental, insurance and school documents
- Submit a USPS change of address and update your address with your employer, bank, insurance providers and subscriptions

3 weeks before moving day: clear space and plan what comes with you

- Sell, donate or discard items you do not want to take to your new home
- Measure rooms in your new home and decide which furniture to keep, sell or donate
- Arrange parking, loading access or elevator reservations if needed at either location
- Schedule a tune-up for your car or truck if you are driving during the move

2 weeks before moving day: set up home services

- Confirm internet, cable and home security installation or transfer details and return any equipment you no longer need
- Choose an electricity plan if you have not already and confirm your service start date
- Arrange childcare or pet care for moving day if needed

1 week before moving day: get ready for moving day

- Finish packing non-daily items and label boxes clearly by room
- Pack an essentials box with toiletries, chargers, medications, snacks and important documents
- Plan meals to use up perishable food and reduce waste before packing the kitchen
- Confirm your movers, closing details and how to reach everyone on moving day

The day before and day of moving day with a post-move checklist for Texas homeowners

- Keep electricity on at your current home through moving day and confirm power is scheduled at your new home
- Do a final walk-through to check closets, cabinets, storage areas and outdoor spaces before hand-off
- Clean empty rooms, vacuum or sweep floors and return keys, garage remotes and gate cards as needed
- Pack a bag of first-night essentials for each person, plus pet supplies if needed

Post-move checklist: settling in with a complete Texas utility setup guide

- Choose an electricity provider if your new address is in a deregulated area, or enroll with the local utility or co-op if provider choice is not available

- Schedule electricity for move-in day, compare plan details and review the Electricity Facts Label before enrolling
- Set up natural gas with the correct regional utility at least a week before move-in if your new home uses gas
- Use Texas water utility tools to confirm your provider by address and start service before moving day
- Schedule internet and cable installation early, especially during peak moving season from May through September
- Check whether trash and recycling are managed by your city, county, HOA or a private provider and request bins early if needed
- Coordinate home security monitoring, smart device transfers and any lock changes before or shortly after move-in
- Review HOA documents to see which utilities, services or fees are already included at your new home

Kids and pets prep

Help kids and pets feel more comfortable before moving day by keeping routines steady and packing a few familiar essentials for the first night.

- Arrange childcare or pet care for moving day if needed
- Pack comfort items like favorite toys, blankets, treats, leashes and medications
- Set aside snacks, water and easy activities to help keep kids occupied during downtime

Simple cleaning steps

A simple top-to-bottom cleaning plan can help you leave your old home ready for hand-off and make your new space easier to settle in.

- Declutter first so surfaces and floors are easier to clean
- Focus on kitchens and bathrooms, then vacuum and sweep empty rooms

- Keep basic supplies handy for final touch-ups on moving day
- Important documents, including IDs, closing paperwork, insurance information and medical records
- Phones, laptops, chargers and portable power banks
- Cash, credit cards, checkbook, jewelry and other irreplaceable items
- Medications, vitamins and a basic first-aid kit
- Toiletries, toilet paper, paper towels and basic cleaning supplies
- A change of clothes, pajamas, pillows and blankets for each person
- Snacks, reusable water bottles and pet food if needed
- A child's favorite toy, blanket or comfort item, plus pet carriers and leashes
- Flashlight, spare keys, tape measure and a basic toolkit
- Trash bags, disinfecting wipes and hand sanitizer for quick cleanup