

What should I do to prepare for my move?

Moving can be an exciting but stressful process. Staying organized and preparing for your move early will help you avoid last-minute chaos. Here are some moving tips and checklists to keep you prepared from start to finish.

Moving checklist

6 weeks out

- First and foremost, set your budget for the move
- Collect free boxes from restaurants, liquor, grocery, office supply stores
- Get packing supplies (tape, labels, mattress covers etc.)
- Make a private list of which boxes you packed your valuables in
- Make time for friends and relatives before the big move
- Pack a little bit each day, the earlier you start the better
- Make a moving playlist to make packing more fun

4 weeks out (1 month)

- Start packing things you don't use often first
- Update your accounts with new address (bank, insurance, subscriptions, credit cards)
- Organize all financial, legal, school and medical records in one safe place
- Seek out new service providers in your new area (medical, nearest police station, grocery stores and shops)
- Finish up necessary current home repairs
- Confirm moving day, get mover's insurance, secure a moving company
- Secure new cable/internet providers for your new address and schedule installation ahead
- Back up your computer and important digital files, just in case
- Schedule the day you want your current utilities turned off

2 weeks out

- Continue packing and set aside a week's worth of clothing that is easy to access
- Request some time off before and after moving day for packing and unpacking

- Schedule sitters for kids and pets during moving day
- Sell and donate any items you don't want or need
- Refill prescriptions you might need
- Prep two-week's worth of meals to use up everything in fridge/freezer
- Set up mail forwarding to your new address
- With Reliant, you can start new or transfer existing service in just minutes.

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1 week out

- Finish packing and aim to finish a couple of days before moving day
- For renters, set up a final walkthrough with landlord to get your security deposit back
- Secure important items to transport yourself for safekeeping and so they don't get lost
- Hiring cleaners for both new home and old home to make move out/in easier
- For fewer moving boxes, donate nonperishables to a local food pantry
- Place screws and fasteners into a sandwich bag then tape bag to the item they belong to

Moving day

- Pack a bag of essentials for first few nights in your new home (clothes, toiletries, plastic utensils, pillows and blankets)
- Keep some trash bags ready, they come in handy!
- Review bill of landing (list of shipped items)
- Do a final walk-through. Lock windows and doors, turn off lights, ceiling fans and make sure you have everything
- Moving is hard work, so remember to tip your movers
- Set up your bed and unpack your shower curtain and toiletries first

Day after the move

- Go grocery shopping, stock your new home food essentials
- Start unpacking your kitchen and bathroom

- Get to know your new neighbors
- Setup a new home security system
- Make spare copies of your new house keys

Don't pack these!

Items to keep with you and off the moving truck

- Important papers such as birth certificates, passports and any records containing bank account information or social security numbers
- Checkbook and credit cards
- Phone and charger
- Laptop computer and charger
- Medications and vitamins
- Toilet paper and essential toiletries
- A change of clothes for each member of your household
- Snacks and water for kids and pets
- A child's favorite toy or blanket
- Flashlight
- Tape measure
- Toolbox
- Trash bags
- Paper towels and cleaning supplies
- Cash
- Jewelry and other valuables, heirlooms or irreplaceable items