

Moving House Checklist.

Your Complete Guide to Moving Home

Moving house involves a lot more than packing boxes. From choosing your removal company and notifying utility providers to organising keys, parking and those all-important moving-day essentials, having a clear plan can make everything much easier.

Our Move Assured Moving Checklist takes you through the important things to organise before, during and after your move.

6–8 Weeks Before Moving

- Starting early gives you time to organise your move properly without having to do everything at the last minute.
- Confirm your expected moving date or completion date.
- If renting, give the required notice to your landlord or letting agent.
- Start obtaining quotations from professional removal companies.
- Check that any removal company you are considering has appropriate insurance, professional Terms & Conditions and genuine customer feedback.
- Decide whether you require additional services such as professional packing, dismantling and reassembly, storage or specialist item moving.
- Check access at both properties, including parking restrictions, narrow roads, stairs, lifts and loading arrangements.
- Find out whether parking permits or temporary parking suspensions will be required for the removal vehicle.
- Measure particularly large pieces of furniture and check doorways, staircases and access at your new property.
- Start decluttering. Donate, sell, recycle or dispose of belongings you no longer want to take with you.
- Arrange storage if there will be a gap between properties or you do not want everything delivered immediately.
- Start a folder — paper or digital — for quotations, contracts, important documents and information relating to your move.
- Choosing Your Removal Company

- Price is important, but it shouldn't be the only consideration when choosing who will be responsible for moving your belongings.
- Look for a professional removal company that provides a written quotation, clear Terms & Conditions and appropriate insurance or liability cover. Check recent customer feedback and make sure you understand exactly what is included in the quotation.
- If you require packing, storage, dismantling and reassembly or specialist handling, make sure these services are agreed before the move.
- Move Assured accredited removal companies have undergone checks before becoming members and are required to maintain professional standards throughout their membership.

4 Weeks Before Moving

With approximately a month to go, you can start dealing with the practical arrangements and packing items you won't need before moving day.

- Confirm your chosen removal company and keep a copy of your quotation, booking confirmation and Terms & Conditions.
- Make sure your removal company knows about anything particularly heavy, valuable, fragile or difficult to move.
- Order suitable packing materials if you are packing yourself, including strong boxes, tape, labels and protective materials.
- Start packing non-essential belongings such as books, ornaments, seasonal clothing and items from spare rooms.
- Label boxes clearly with their contents and the room they should go into at your new home.
- Notify your employer of your change of address where necessary.
- Inform schools, nurseries or childcare providers and make arrangements for transferring records if required.
- Arrange Royal Mail redirection to your new address.
- Book time off work for moving day if necessary.
- Start making arrangements for children and pets on moving day if this will make the move easier and safer.
- If you're moving a considerable distance, start researching doctors, dentists, vets, schools and other essential services near your new home.

2 Weeks Before Moving

This is the time to start confirming arrangements and notifying organisations of your change of address.

- Reconfirm the moving date and arrangements with your removal company.
- Make sure the removal company has correct addresses, telephone numbers and access information for both properties.
- Confirm any packing, dismantling, reassembly or storage services you have booked.
- Contact your gas, electricity and water providers and tell them you're moving.
- Arrange broadband and other telecommunications services for your new home.
- Notify your local council regarding Council Tax.
- Update your address with banks, building societies, credit-card providers and other financial organisations.
- Notify insurance providers, including your home, contents and vehicle insurers.
- Update your details with your GP, dentist and other healthcare providers where appropriate.
- Make a list of other organisations requiring your new address, including pension providers, subscriptions, memberships and loyalty schemes.
- Check what your removal company cannot carry. This can include flammable materials, gas cylinders, certain chemicals and other hazardous items.
- Safely dispose of items that cannot be transported.
- Start using food from your freezer and cupboards that you don't want to move.

1 Week Before Moving

Your move is getting close, so concentrate on finishing the packing and making sure everything is ready for moving day.

- Finish packing everything except the items you'll need during your final few days.
- Clearly label every box with its destination room.
- Keep screws, fittings and instructions from dismantled furniture together and clearly labelled.
- Prepare a moving-day essentials box containing things you'll want immediately at your new home.
- Useful items might include:
 - Kettle, tea, coffee, mugs and snacks
 - Toiletries and toilet roll

- Phone chargers
- Basic cleaning products
- Medication
- A change of clothes
- Children's essentials
- Pet food and bowls
- Basic tools
- Keep passports, jewellery, important documents, medication, keys and other valuable or irreplaceable items separately with you rather than packing them onto the removal vehicle.
- Confirm arrangements for collecting and handing over keys.
- Confirm parking arrangements at both properties.
- Check that your mobile phone is charged and that you have your removal company's contact details readily available.
- Defrost and clean your fridge and freezer if they are being moved, following the manufacturer's instructions.
- Empty and prepare other appliances in accordance with the manufacturer's guidance and your removal company's requirements.
- Dispose of rubbish and unwanted items rather than leaving them until moving morning.

The Day Before Your Move

- Check every room, cupboard, loft, garage, shed and outside storage area for anything you may have forgotten.
- Make sure boxes are properly sealed and labelled.
- Keep your overnight and essential belongings separate so they aren't accidentally loaded.
- Charge mobile phones and other essential devices.
- Make sure you have access to funds or payment arrangements required by your removal company.
- Get a good night's sleep — tomorrow is a busy day.

Moving Day

Before Leaving Your Old Home

- Take final gas, electricity and water meter readings and photograph them where possible.
- Keep your keys, phone, important documents, valuables and medication with you.

- Show the removal team anything requiring particular care and point out items that are not being moved.
- Check cupboards, wardrobes, lofts, garages, sheds and outside areas after loading.
- Make sure everything intended for the move has been loaded before the removal vehicle leaves.
- Check windows and doors and secure the property.
- Hand over keys as agreed.

At Your New Home

- Take meter readings when you arrive.
- Check that utilities are working.
- Show the removal team where you want furniture and boxes placed.
- Check larger items and furniture as they are delivered where practical.
- Make sure any agreed furniture reassembly is completed.
- If unpacking has been included in your removal service, confirm what is to be unpacked and whether packing materials are being removed.
- Before the removal crew leaves, check the vehicle with them where possible to make sure nothing has been left behind.

After the Move

You've made it! There are still a few things worth doing while everything is fresh in your mind.

- Check your belongings as you unpack.
- If you discover loss or damage, photograph it and contact your removal company promptly. Check your contract or Terms & Conditions for any notification or claims deadlines.
- Finish setting up utilities, broadband and other household services.
- Update any organisations you haven't already notified of your new address.
- Update your driving licence and vehicle details with the DVLA where applicable.
- Update your details on the electoral register.
- Register with a new GP, dentist or other local services if required.
- Check smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms and familiarise yourself with the fuse box, stopcock and utility controls.
- Keep your removal paperwork, inventory and any relevant photographs until you are satisfied everything has arrived and any outstanding matters have been resolved.

- Unpack at your own pace. Concentrate on the rooms and belongings you need first.

And finally... breathe, put the kettle on and enjoy your new home.

Find a Trusted Removal Company

Choosing the right removal company is one of the most important parts of planning a successful house move.

Move Assured is an independent removals trade organisation accrediting professional removal companies. Our members undergo checks before accreditation and are expected to maintain professional standards throughout their membership.

Find a [Move Assured](#) accredited removal company near you and request quotations for your move.