



Moving into your new home goes more smoothly when you begin planning two months ahead. From creating a moving binder to backing up your computer files, the goal is to reduce your stress! We've highlighted some of the essentials!

8 WEEKS BEFORE

- Location, Location, Location—pick the new area you want to live. If you are uncertain, prioritize which is most important in your new home: Neighborhood, Commute, Schools, Amenities, Size of Home, Price. Then pick the area that meets that criteria.
- Research schools, crime rates, flood zones, community details, HOA's
- Declutter your home and get it ready to sell.
- Donate everything you don't use or wear anymore.
- Get moving boxes, packing tape, paper/plastic bags, sharpies.
- Pack away all non-essential items.
- Speak to a lender and get pre-qualified.
- Gather all documents for the lender. (W-9's, 1099, Tax Returns, etc) and create a binder.

6 WEEKS BEFORE

- If moving out of state: Gather all important items: medical files, school transcripts, prescriptions, trust documents, etc.
- Start shopping for new homes and get your house on the market with your Vista Group Agent.
- Determine the type of movers you need: large cross-country transport, large items moved only, DIY POD/UHaul
- Get your car tuned up and ready for the road if moving across country.
- Set aside cash for the home inspection, appraisal, and earnest deposit.
- Make an offer on a new home.

4 WEEKS BEFORE

- Order homeowners insurance for your new home.
- Schedule utility transfer: Electric, water/sewer/trash, gas, cable, internet
- Fill out a change of address form with USPS.
- Measure rooms to determine what furniture you will take or sell.
- Place furniture you are selling on OfferUp, or Facebook Garage Sale Sites.
- Continue to pack all non-essential items.
- Schedule movers or reserve a moving truck.
- Go on a date night...this is the most important. Don't get so caught up in the move that you forget to spend time with loved ones!

2 WEEKS BEFORE

- Request time off work (the signing appointment may be scheduled last minute, so try to keep your schedule as flexible as possible the day before and day of closing)
- Make an OPEN FIRST box and pack overnight bags for the first few days.
- Pack everything else that doesn't go into the open first box and the overnight bags.
- Refill prescriptions if needed and transfer the prescriptions to a pharmacy near your new home.
- Set up intro appointments for doctors, schools, attorneys, CPAs near your new home for after closing.
- Gather important items and place into plastic container that includes: important documents, checkbook, credit cards, medication, phone and charger, laptop and charger, toilet paper, jewelry, snacks and water, kids toys and blankets that they will need, flashlight, tape measure, toolbox, trash bags, paper towels, cash, and any other valuables.

1 WEEK BEFORE

- Get the house cleaned and schedule carpet cleaning.
- Disconnect large appliances and defrost freezer.
- Confirm time with the movers.
- Disassemble furniture.
- Donate food and any remaining items you won't be taking with you.
- Gather all keys, garage remotes, mailbox keys, community keys, and homeowner manuals and place in a cabinet in the kitchen for the new homeowner.
- Schedule to stay in a hotel or with friends/family for a few nights if your move in and move out days aren't the same day.
- Move all boxes to storage or to a front room of the house so that movers can be quick and efficient.
- Organize all old paint and house supplies and put them on a shelf in the garage.
- Label electrical box and pool equipment for the new homeowners.
- Replace all burned out light bulbs

! MOVING DAY

- Meet the movers and supervise load in
- Do final touch up cleaning.
- Lock all windows and doors.
- Disconnect/Shutoff Utilities at Old House.
- Confirm Utilities Turned On at New House.
- Place carpet protector over high traffic carpet areas at new home.
- Clean new home if needed.
- Show moving crew around.
- Watch for damaged and missing items.
- Pay the movers.
- Assemble furniture.
- Start Unpacking.
- Enjoy your new home!