

North Alabama Moving Checklist

A Step-by-Step Guide from Stewart & Associates Real Estate

Moving doesn't have to be overwhelming. Whether you're relocating across town or moving to North Alabama from another state, this checklist will help you stay organized from the moment you decide to move until you're comfortably settled into your new home.

8 Weeks Before Moving

Create Your Moving Plan

- ☐ Set your moving date.
 - ☐ Decide whether to hire professional movers or move yourself.
 - ☐ Request quotes from at least three moving companies.
 - ☐ Create a moving budget.
 - ☐ Begin a moving binder or digital folder for contracts, receipts, and checklists.
 - ☐ Measure large furniture to ensure it fits through doors and into your new home.
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Declutter Your Home

- ☐ Go room by room.
- ☐ Donate unwanted items.
- ☐ Sell items online or hold a yard sale.

☐ Recycle or dispose of hazardous materials properly.

☐ Shred unnecessary personal documents.

Gather Packing Supplies

☐ Moving boxes (multiple sizes)

☐ Packing tape

☐ Bubble wrap

☐ Packing paper

☐ Permanent markers

☐ Labels

☐ Mattress bags

☐ Furniture covers

☐ Zip-top bags for hardware

6 Weeks Before Moving

Notify Important Parties

Update your address with:

☐ USPS Mail Forwarding

☐ Banks & Credit Cards

☐ Employer

☐ Insurance Companies

- ☐ Investment Accounts
 - ☐ Retirement Accounts
 - ☐ Schools
 - ☐ Medical Providers
 - ☐ Dentist
 - ☐ Pharmacy
 - ☐ Veterinarian
 - ☐ Subscription Services
 - ☐ Online Shopping Accounts
 - ☐ Professional Licenses
 - ☐ Membership Organizations
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Schedule Services

- ☐ Reserve your moving company.
 - ☐ Reserve truck or trailer if moving yourself.
 - ☐ Schedule elevator reservations if required.
 - ☐ Arrange pet boarding if needed.
 - ☐ Arrange child care for moving day if necessary.
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4 Weeks Before Moving

Begin Packing

- ☐ Pack seasonal items.
 - ☐ Pack decorations.
 - ☐ Pack books.
 - ☐ Label every box clearly.
 - ☐ Mark fragile boxes.
 - ☐ Number boxes by room.
 - ☐ Create a master inventory list.
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Transfer Utilities

Schedule disconnect/connect dates for:

- ☐ Electricity
 - ☐ Natural Gas
 - ☐ Water
 - ☐ Sewer
 - ☐ Garbage Collection
 - ☐ Internet
 - ☐ Cable/Satellite
 - ☐ Home Security
 - ☐ Lawn Service
 - ☐ Pest Control
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3 Weeks Before Moving

Vehicle Preparation

- ☐ Schedule maintenance if moving long distance.
 - ☐ Check tire pressure.
 - ☐ Change oil if needed.
 - ☐ Locate spare key.
 - ☐ Register any trailers.
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Organize Important Documents

Keep these with you—not in the moving truck.

- ☐ Closing Documents
 - ☐ IDs
 - ☐ Birth Certificates
 - ☐ Social Security Cards
 - ☐ Passports
 - ☐ Medical Records
 - ☐ School Records
 - ☐ Insurance Policies
 - ☐ Financial Documents
 - ☐ Pet Records
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2 Weeks Before Moving

Confirm Everything

- ☐ Confirm moving company.
 - ☐ Confirm utility transfers.
 - ☐ Confirm closing appointment.
 - ☐ Confirm homeowner's insurance.
 - ☐ Confirm lender requirements.
 - ☐ Refill prescriptions.
 - ☐ Return borrowed items.
 - ☐ Pick up dry cleaning.
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Continue Packing

Leave out only essentials.

Pack:

- ☐ Extra linens
 - ☐ Guest room
 - ☐ Office
 - ☐ Garage
 - ☐ Storage areas
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1 Week Before Moving

Prepare Your Essentials Box

Pack separately:

- ☐ Toiletries
 - ☐ Medications
 - ☐ Phone chargers
 - ☐ Laptop
 - ☐ Snacks
 - ☐ Water
 - ☐ Paper towels
 - ☐ Toilet paper
 - ☐ Trash bags
 - ☐ Cleaning supplies
 - ☐ Coffee maker
 - ☐ Basic cookware
 - ☐ Pet food
 - ☐ Baby supplies
 - ☐ Change of clothes
 - ☐ Towels
 - ☐ Bedding
 - ☐ Basic tools
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Finish Packing

- ☐ Empty refrigerator.
 - ☐ Defrost freezer.
 - ☐ Dispose of hazardous materials.
 - ☐ Remove propane tanks.
 - ☐ Drain fuel from lawn equipment if required.
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Moving Day

Before Leaving Your Old Home

- ☐ Walk every room.
 - ☐ Check closets.
 - ☐ Check attic.
 - ☐ Check crawl space.
 - ☐ Check cabinets.
 - ☐ Check garage.
 - ☐ Turn off lights.
 - ☐ Lock windows.
 - ☐ Leave garage door open only if required.
 - ☐ Leave keys as instructed.
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At Your New Home

- ☐ Confirm utilities are working.
 - ☐ Verify HVAC operation.
 - ☐ Locate water shutoff.
 - ☐ Locate electrical panel.
 - ☐ Locate gas shutoff.
 - ☐ Test smoke detectors.
 - ☐ Test carbon monoxide detectors.
 - ☐ Change exterior locks if desired.
 - ☐ Verify garage door openers.
 - ☐ Photograph utility meter readings.
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First Week After Moving

Update Your Home

- ☐ Change locks or rekey.
- ☐ Program garage remotes.
- ☐ Change HVAC filters.
- ☐ Locate circuit breakers.
- ☐ Locate water shutoffs.
- ☐ Create emergency contact list.
- ☐ Register security system.
- ☐ Meet your neighbors.

Administrative Tasks

- ☐ Update driver's license.
 - ☐ Update vehicle registration.
 - ☐ Register to vote if needed.
 - ☐ Update homeowner exemptions if applicable.
 - ☐ Review homeowner's insurance.
 - ☐ File all moving receipts.
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North Alabama New Resident Checklist

If you're moving to the Huntsville, Madison, Athens, or Decatur area, don't forget to:

- ☐ Set up local utility services.
- ☐ Register your vehicle in Alabama (if moving from another state).
- ☐ Obtain an Alabama driver's license (if required).
- ☐ Locate your nearest grocery store, pharmacy, and hospital.
- ☐ Explore nearby parks, restaurants, and community events.
- ☐ Learn your commute to work.
- ☐ Locate your nearest storm shelter and review severe weather safety procedures.
- ☐ Find local schools, libraries, recreation centers, and community resources.
- ☐ Register children for school if applicable.
- ☐ Explore local shopping, entertainment, and farmers markets.

New Home Maintenance Tasks

Complete these during your first month:

- ☐ Replace HVAC filters.
- ☐ Test GFCI outlets.
- ☐ Test smoke alarms.
- ☐ Flush water heater if appropriate.
- ☐ Locate septic records (if applicable).
- ☐ Label electrical panel.
- ☐ Check irrigation system.
- ☐ Inspect roof after first major storm.
- ☐ Establish lawn maintenance schedule.
- ☐ Create a home maintenance calendar.

Pro Moving Tips

- Label boxes on multiple sides.
 - Color-code boxes by room.
 - Pack one room at a time.
 - Take photos of electronics before disconnecting them.
 - Keep valuable jewelry and important documents with you.
 - Pack a basic toolbox separately.
 - Keep medications and chargers easily accessible.
 - Clean your new home before unloading if possible.
 - Introduce yourself to your neighbors—they're often your best local resource.
 - Keep all closing documents in a safe place for future reference.
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Stewart & Associates Real Estate

Higher Standards...Better Results.

Whether you're moving across North Alabama or relocating from across the country, our experienced REALTORS® are here to guide you every step of the way—from finding the right home to recommending trusted local service providers and helping you settle into your new community.



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