MoverJunction.com Moving Checklist

To ensure your entire moving process go through easily from start to finish, you need a checklist. As you plan for the move, the checklist will serve as a guide and a reference to make sure you get everything right.

Your move will be a lot easier, if you start your preparation early. See our moving checklist below:

TWO MONTHS BEFORE YOU MOVE

Detailed Assessment

Walk through each room of your house and carefully assess your household items or goods. Decide what you will like to keep, and what you no longer need. Think carefully about any of the items that may require special packing or an extra insurance coverage.

Research Moving Companies

Search for movers online, or ask friends and colleagues who move recently. Call different movers and ask for quotes, preferably an on-site estimate. Get estimates from different companies and ensure they have a US Department of Transportation (USDOT) number on it.

Create Your Moving Binder

All your estimates, quotes, receipts, and the inventory of all items you intend to move should go into the binder. You can use the binder to keep track of everything involved in your relocation.

Transfer School Records

Visit your children's schools and request for their record to be transferred to their new district school.

SIX WEEKS BEFORE YOU MOVE

Obtain Your Moving Supplies

Order all the supplies you will need such as Bubble wraps, tape, boxes, permanent markers, wardrobe boxes, dish barrels, specialty containers etc.

Use up Perishable Items

Start using any perishable items that you may lose during the move. This includes items such as cleaning supplies, frozen or perishable foods.

Verify Room Dimension

Take measurement to verify room dimensions at the new residence. Find out if your pieces of furniture will fit the door or not.

ONE MONTH BEFORE YOU MOVE

Hire a Moving Company

Select a moving company and decide on a moving schedule. Also, get a confirmation of your moving costs, date, time and other necessary details.

Start Packing

Start packing by packing items you hardly use first like the croquet set and the waffle iron. As you pack, observe your high value items that may require additional insurance coverage. Ensure you indicate in writing any item that is valued over \$100 per pound.

Label

Clearly indicate through labels and number each box, its contents and the room it should go to. This will allow you keep an inventory of your belongings. Don't forget to pack items you will need as soon as you arrive at your new home and label them "essentials."

Isolate Valuables

Separate valuable items such as jewelry, and delicate files. Pack the items in a box that you will personally move to your destination. Ensure you keep the mover's estimate in the box, it will be required on moving day for reference.

Make a change of address

Change your address online at www.usps.gov or visit your local post office and fill out a change of address form. Also, you may ask a friendly neighbor to help check your mail for few weeks after you move. Just in case the change of address process takes a slower turn.

Inform crucial parties

Notify the following parties about your move: your employer's human resources department, banks, brokerage firms, utility companies, credit card, insurance, as well as newspapers and magazines you subscribed to.

Transfer Medical Records

Put in order plans for all medical records to be sent to any new health-care provider and obtain personal copies. Also, you may ask for referrals.

Two Weeks before You Move

Schedule a day off at work on your moving day. If you need more than one day, let your employers know.

Tune Up Your Car

Ask your mechanic to inspect your car and tell you what might be required if you're moving your car to a new climate.

Empty Your Safe Deposit

If you intend to change banks, empty the content of your safe deposit box and put them in a safe box that you'll take along while moving.

Call Your Hired Movers

Call the moving company you hired and reconfirm your moving schedule. The last thing you need while planning a move is a last minute disappointment.

ONE WEEK BEFORE YOU MOVE

Refill Your Prescriptions

Don't forget to stock up on all the prescription you may need in the next few weeks.

Pack Your Suitcases

It's always better to complete your packing few days before the move. Pack up suitcases filled with clothes for each family member.

FEW DAYS BEFORE YOU MOVE

Recheck Your Moving Schedule

Double check every detail of your move. Reconfirm if you have given the movers an accurate address of your new home.

Create a Payment Plan

You must have selected a payment option while you hired a moving company. Plan how you intend to make the payment and double check to ensure it will work as planned.

THE MOVING DAY

Authentication

Verify and confirm that the moving van that showed up at your house is from the moving company you hired. The USDOT number on your quote or estimate must match

the one painted on the side of the moving van. Scams are real, and you can't be too careful when your household goods are involved.

Take Inventory

Ensure you sign the Bill of Lading/inventory list and keep a personal copy before the moving company leave with your household items or goods.

Number Each Box

Chances are you will have a number of boxes that you'll be moving and it could be hard to keep track of every single thing. Its best to number each item and box if you can so its easy to track if you are missing one or more. It'll also help to make a small list with the box numbers and its contents.

