

# Pre-Move Checklist

## 2 months before

Get quotes for your move

*Collect at least three estimates from different moving companies. Get written — and [binding](#) — quotes.*

Make your moving budget

Set up a move file

*Create a place to keep track of your moving info.*

Research your new community

Gather your records and important documents

*Collect medical records and important documents for your family (and your pets).*

Talk to your insurance agent

*Learn if your home and auto premiums could change after your move.*

## 6 weeks before

Go through your belongings

*Decide what to keep, donate, or trash.*

Clear out your freezer and pantry

Use up your cleaning supplies

*You shouldn't move aerosol products and bleach, so start cleaning.*

Gather your moving boxes and supplies

*Track down [free ones](#) or buy them for cheap.*

Hire your movers

*Decide what company you want to use or if you want to DIY.*

Make a Moving Day schedule

*Plan out how many hours you'll need movers or the rental truck. Gather your volunteers!*

## 4 weeks before

Start packing

Take care of utilities (at both places)

Forward your mail

*File your [change-of-address](#) with USPS.*

Make a plan for moving your pets

## 2 weeks before

Make sure your car is ready for the trip

*Get your car serviced so you don't have to find a new mechanic immediately after moving.*

Change your address with your services

*Let your [bank, employer, and others](#) know you're moving.*

## 1 week before

Touch base with your moving company

*Print at least 2 copies of your contract with your movers.*

Pack your “essentials box”

*Make sure you have [everything you need](#) for your first night in your new home.*

Empty and defrost your refrigerator and freezer at least 24 hours before Moving Day

Finish packing

## Moving Day

Protect your old place

*Make sure you move out damage-free.*

Stay out of the way (if you're using pros)

Do a final walk-through of your old home

Save all of your receipts

*Track your spending, especially if you're getting help with relocation costs!*