

## 8-12 weeks before you move

- **Contact moving companies.** If you will be hiring a mover, obtain quotes from at least three moving companies. For an accurate estimate, ask for an in-house assessment.
- **Pare down and sort.** Donate, recycle or throw out what you don't want to move. Start sorting items.
- **Organize records.** Transfer school records; contact your insurance agent to update property, auto, medical and other insurance records.
- **Start your own "moving manual."** Start a binder containing an inventory of your household items, moving estimates or other important receipts to keep information in one place.
- **Start looking for new doctors, dentists, etc.** From doctors, dentists and veterinarians to banks and landscapers, it pays to investigate new service providers earlier rather than later.

## 4-6 weeks before you move

- **Order supplies and start packing.** Order boxes and other supplies such as tape, bubble wrap and markers. Pack things you won't need first. Set goals.
- **Contact utilities, cable, etc.** Arrange to have services connected and disconnected now to avoid date/time conflicts.
- **Obtain change of address forms.** You can do this online at [www.USPS.com](http://www.USPS.com) or at your local post office.
- **Schedule routine medical appointments.** Doctor, dentist and vet visits may be hard to schedule for a while.
- **Take measurements and map out.** Give advance thought and planning to where things will go in your new home. Make sure larger pieces of furniture will fit through the door.
- **Make packing and unpacking plans.** Draw a diagram of where your furniture will go.
- **Arrange for pet care.** Make sure your pets are taken care of during the move and when you are unpacking.

## 1-2 weeks before you move

- **Confirm details with the moving company.** Make sure you have their contact information and they have yours.
- **Organize key documents.** You should carry with you - original passports, deeds, financial statements and other critical documents. Make copies of them as well.
- **Refill prescriptions.** Forward medical records if needed.
- **Gather keys/alarms codes/garage door openers.** Keep all of these in one easy place to hand over to new owners.
- **Arrange for cleaning.** That includes your new home and existing home cleaned. Remember to defrost your freezer.
- **Confirm closing/move-in dates with your real estate agent and mover.**
- **Clean out any safe deposit boxes.** Also be sure to carry any valuables with you.
- **Car tune up.** If you are moving to a new location with a different climate, ask your mechanic what additional servicing you may need.
- **Arrange for tips/payment for movers.**

## Moving day

- **Make sure you have a moving day survival kit.** These are items you will need upon arrival at your new home (bottled water, dishes, toilet paper, trash bags, pet food, toys for younger children, a couple of days of clothing).
- **Check the moving inventory list and sign it.** You should also read the Bill of Lading carefully and sign it.
- **Do the walk-through with your real-estate agent** - Be sure to ask for all appliance manuals/warranties and instruction booklets.