

Quick Tips for an Easier Move:

- Label all your boxes as to which room they go in, which order they should be unpacked and what is inside them.
- Label one or two boxes "essential" and pack them with soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, prescription pills, snacks, etc. Take this box with you or pack it last.
- Save up newspapers a month in advance as they make great packing paper for anything fragile.
- If you want to save a few bucks, try going to supermarkets and liquor stores and using their boxes for packing up your home... they're free!
- Plates and records should always be packed vertically rather than placed flat on top of one another.
- Keep the weight of your boxes low... you will be lifting them all day long. If possible, pack heavy items in smaller boxes which makes them easier to carry.
- Towels, sheets, blankets and even clothes are great to pack around and between breakable objects. Using them to pack will also spare you time in having to pack them separately.

Go to monstermoving.com and sign up for their moving planner. It's easy. Enter in your move date and email address and Monster will email you tips weekly on what you should be doing. They have advice, articles, search engines for moving companies and rental trucks, as well as tons of information on moving costs, real estate mortgage and storage. Most of these tips were found on this great website and there are many more to help you on your way!



Tips for Moving with Children:

- Talk to your children about the move as soon as you can. The more time they have to adjust to the idea the easier the move will be.
- Ask them how they feel about the move and truly listen to what they have to say. Most children will have some feelings of anger and sadness. Express any of these feelings that you may have to reassure them that it is ok and normal to feel this way. This will let them know they are not alone.
- If it's possible, take your children to the new home before you move in. Point out the positive of the new home that are different than your current home. Explore the neighborhoods, parks and schools nearby to familiarize them with their new surroundings.
- During the move be sure to stay positive and calm. Children are great observers and a bad mood could make them uneasy.
- Get your children involved in the packing process. If they are younger, have them pack their toys and stuffed animals. If they are older, have them pack their clothes and favorite possessions.
- Make sure when packing to leave out a few of your children's favorite things such as a small toy, blanket, teddy bear, cd or book. This will give them something to play with when there is down time in the move.
- Help your children say goodbye to their friends in a fun upbeat way. Throw a pizza party or barbeque a few weekends before the move to celebrate their friendships. Buy them an address book ahead of time and have all the guests fill in their address and phone numbers. That way they'll know they can keep in touch and still be friends.
- If it's going to be a long trip to your new home, make sure your children are in comfortable traveling clothes.

Moving Tips



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8 Weeks prior to the Move:

- Choose a moving method. Will you hire movers or move yourself? If you are going to hire movers, create a moving budget. Then call for estimates and compare moving companies.
- Research and familiarize yourself with the community you will be moving into. You can call the Chamber of Commerce in your new community and have them send you local information. You can also find maps, restaurants and city profiles on the web.
- Find a roommate. If you are in need of a roommate, do not leave this until the last minute. It may be the last thing on your mind, but this is someone who will be living with you and should be a priority.

7 Weeks prior to the Move:

- Start sorting out your possessions. Get rid of things you no longer need or use. Donate any clothing or furniture that does not need to move with you.
- If you are going to be storing items in a storage facility, now is a great time to research them and get price quotes.
- Book any travel arrangements needed if moving far away. Make sure you will arrive at your new house a few hours before the movers.

6 Weeks prior to the Move:

- Complete US Postal change of address forms.
- Obtain copies of medical, school, legal and veterinarian records. Notify your doctor and dentist of your move and request referrals. You can also make arrangements between new and old doctors to have records transferred.

- Moving expenses can often be tax deductible. Talk to your tax advisor to find out which ones qualify. Keep records of all your move-related expenses.
- Avoid buying items such as cleaning supplies that you will most likely leave behind and buy in your new community.
- Obtain a copy of your floor plan and begin to decide where your furniture will reside.

5 Weeks prior to the Move:

- Have a yard sale with the items you decided to leave behind. Anything left over can be donated to charity. This is a great way to get rid of your old stuff and make a few bucks at the same time.
- Order new return address labels and checks.

4 Weeks prior to the Move:

- Repair and clean furniture and carpet.
- If you will be driving long distances, take your car in for a tune-up.
- Pack all unnecessary items that you will not be using in the next month.

3 Weeks prior to the Move:

- Begin to clean out refrigerator and freezer. Buy as little bulk food as possible and eat up what you have.
- Get prescriptions filled and ask your pharmacist for a referral in your new area.
- Pay any unpaid tickets or taxes.
- Start calling and changing your address with utility companies, your employer, magazines and memberships.

2 Weeks prior to the Move:

- Inspect your new home. List any damages left by old tenants.

- Dispose your household wastes. Whether you have cleaning fluids, oil or lighter fluids you should contact your public works department for the nearest hazardous waste disposal location.
- If you haven't already, cancel your current insurance coverage or have it transferred to your new home.
- Begin your serious packing by clearly labeling contents on the front of boxes and which room in your new house they go in.
- Return all borrowed items such as books and movies.

1 week before the Move:

- Write down your loan or landlord's information and keep it in a safe place. You will most likely need this for future job and housing applications.
- Make arrangements for final trash and recycling pickup.
- Stop by your dry cleaners to make sure you haven't left behind any of your clothes.
- Notify friends and family of new address.
- Mow your lawn. Then drain the gas and oil from your lawnmower and other machinery.
- Pack a suitcase with clothes and personal items for the move.

Week of the Move:

- Check on new home, clean carpet and appliances such as refrigerator.
- Buy plenty of snacks and drinks for moving day. You and your movers will be hungry.
- Empty your safe deposit box.
- Verify delivery plans with your moving company.
- Make your first night in the new home fun. Don't worry about unpacking. Order in food and relax for the night.