



Moving House Checklist

6-8 weeks

- [Contact removals companies for quotes](#) - Try to obtain at least five different ones to compare. Ask friends and family or visit the [British Association of Removers](#) to see trusted movers.
- Research storage options - If you are moving lots of items or are only moving temporarily it might be a good idea to [check if your removals company offers this](#) or if you need a provider.
- Start a to-do list – Note down key contacts and important dates that you can tick off as you go along and create an inventory of your contents.
- Manage your children’s school places - Try to minimise disruption to their schooling and routine. This is particularly important if you are moving to a whole new area.
- Declutter – save time and money by reducing the amount of clutter you bring with you. Adopt a ‘Use it or lose it’ attitude to items you no longer have use for and try to put sentimentality aside where possible. Consider using apps like eBay and [Schpock](#).
- Let landlords know – If you are renting a property make sure you confirm your moving date with your landlord.

4-6 weeks

- Contact utilities providers - Arrange for current services to be switched over to your new property.
- Research removals insurance options – Most removals companies will offer some form of basic liability insurance but check if this will cover your needs. It’s also worth checking/updating your home insurance as often lots of things will be covered.
- Find GP surgeries, dentists, banks and other providers you might need in your new area - Make sure you tell your existing providers as well if they are going to be different.
- Find minders for children and pets – See if family members can look after small children and arrange kennels or other minders for certain pets.
- Book time off work – Let your employers know as soon as possible to ensure you can get your moving date booked off work if you are going to be moving mid-week.
- Check for parking restrictions – If the new property you are moving to has access issues or is difficult to find make sure you let your removals company know.

2-4 weeks

- Collect boxes – receive boxes and [specialist supplies from your removals company](#) or arrange to collect reusable boxes from a friend or donor.
- Start packing the contents of your house - Begin with the non-essentials and least used areas like basements, garages and attics and move your way through the house.

- Make arrangements to pay council tax - Inform your local authority if moving away.
- Redirect your post – You can use the [Post Office's online redirection service](#) to ensure you don't miss any important mail and bills.
- Cancel subscriptions and local services – If you have any local services you pay for like milkmen, window cleaners or magazine subscriptions cancel these or redirect them.
- Plan a route – regardless of whether you are moving round the corner or across the country, plan your route on the day to ensure minimum disruption and delay.
- Have your car serviced – Especially if you are going to be travelling a long way.
- Dispose of flammable and hazardous materials – your removals company cannot move dangerous liquids so make sure you [dispose of these safely](#) in plenty of time.

1 week to go

- Run-down the fridge - start finishing off the last contents of the fridge.
- Finish your final packing – Most items should be packed and stowed away in boxes ready for the removals team to load.
- Check metre readings - Ensure you don't end up paying more bills during the crossover period.
- Dismantle furniture – Take apart furniture that you are taking with you ready to be loaded onto the removals van.
- Pack a moving day essentials kit - Put in everything you want instant access to on the day. (Think: Toilet paper, food, medicine, cutlery, tools etc).
- Arrange a time to collect the keys to your new property from the agent.

Night before

- Make a note of essential contacts (solicitors, estate agents).
- Defrost the fridge and freezer.
- Give the house a quick spring clean to check items haven't fallen down the sides of sofas, etc.
- Charge your mobile phone.
- Inform friends and family of timings.
- Check for traffic updates and plan out your route to avoid jams and delays.

Moving day itself

- Strip the bed sand pack bedding and linen in your survival kit.
- Invite your removals team.
- Guide them to the boxes and identify fragile items if not clear.
- Tick off each item from your inventory.
- Carry out any last-minute checks.
- Leave keys for the new owners/landlord as arranged.
- Wave goodbye to your old home!

In your new home

- Unpack your moving day survival kit.
- Get the kettle on for yourself (don't forget to offer your removals team a brew and a biccyy as well!)
- Direct your removals team as to where each box and items should go.

- Read utility meters and use your phone to take photos.
- Make arrangements to pick up kids/pets and ensure the house is suitable for their arrival
- Settle young children in their new rooms and ensure they are ready and that they are well entertained.
- Sort out your bedroom – Don't leave making the bed to the last minute otherwise you could find yourself kipping on the sofa.
- Celebrate! Don't forget in all the madness to give yourself a pat on the back. Crack open a bottle of bubbly or order a takeaway, you've certainly earned it!