



8 WEEKS PRIOR TO MOVE DATE | RESEARCH MOVING SERVICES



Research Moving Services

Now is the time to figure out how you want to move. Are you doing it yourself? Or do you prefer to hire a professional? Start familiarizing yourself with options and your budget. If you do decide to hire movers, check out reputable and reliable moving companies.



Visit Your New Community

Before the move, make sure you visit the new community. Being there in-person will give you a better feel for the area's various neighborhoods and amenities. You can also learn more about your community through internet searches, the law enforcement websites for your new area or websites like the Megan's Law website.



Budget Accordingly

Before hiring a moving company or committing to a DIY move, figure out your overall relocation budget. Those looking to hire a moving company for a long distance move should budget around \$5,000. A local move, on the other hand, may only cost around \$1,000. If moving for a job, be sure to also check with your employer about whether or not they'll be covering expenses.



Research Schools

Have school-age children? Start researching schools in your new community now. To find top-rated schools in the new neighborhood, call the School District office.



Discuss the Move with you Children

Including your children in the conversation early on will help put them at ease during the transition. For tips on how to make the move as seamless as possible for your kids, check non-profit organization websites such as Kidshealth.org or Childmind.org.

Give Notice to your Landlord

Renting? You'll need to give your landlord a heads-up about the move. Many leases require tenants to give their landlords at least 60 days notice when moving out. With this in mind, be sure to double-check your lease agreement for specific details on how to break it before making any moving plans.

7 WEEKS PRIOR TO MOVE DATE | PLANNING YOUR MOVE

Get Estimates for Movers or Moving Trucks

Contact at least three moving companies to obtain a quote. To avoid surprises, make sure the movers perform either an in-person inspection or a video survey of your belongings before giving you an estimate. Also, ask whether the estimate is a non-binding estimate, binding estimate or binding not-to-exceed estimate. California Curb Appeal Real Property Specialists is one of the only Real Estate companies that has partners with a national moving truck rental company, UHaul, so be sure to get a quote from them as well. They may be able to offer you a special rate.

Ask Friends to Help

Moving yourself? Don't wait until the last minute to ask friends and family for help. By requesting assistance well in advance, you should be able to find plenty of people to help you with your DIY move.

Reserve Your Truck

Whether you're looking for temporary storage while unpacking or a long-term solution to your clutter, renting a storage unit is a perfect option for those relocating to a new home. UHaul has many different solutions such as the UBox, a storage/moving option that can save you hundreds in storage fees. Your Real Estate Agent can help you with your reservation as well.

6 WEEKS PRIOR TO MOVE DATE | MAKING ARRANGEMENTS

Schedule Your Move Date

It's finally time to schedule the movers, whether it is a moving company or your group of friends! When choosing a move date, keep in mind that the specific day, week and month you pick will affect the cost of your move. Moving during peak season (May to September) will likely cost more. The same goes for weekend

moves. If your budget is tight, aim for a weekday move during the off-season months.

Order Your Moving Supplies

If you're packing up your entire household, now is the time to order all necessary moving supplies. From boxes and bubble wrap to tape and packing paper, these materials will help ensure that your belongings arrive safely at your new home. You can calculate the number of boxes you will need by using your square feet of living space and estimating 2 boxes per 100 square feet of space.

Contact Insurance Provider and Schools

Contact your health insurance provider to assure seamless medical coverage during and after the move. If you're moving to a new zip code or city, you may need to purchase a new plan. However, if you're moving for your job (and your company has multiple locations throughout the U.S.), your health insurance could remain unchanged. Have school-age children? Now's the time to notify school officials of your move, so that you can begin the enrollment process. Be sure to also let them know about any special needs or issues your child may have.

Keep Track of Tax Deductible Moving Expenses

Begin keeping a running tally of all tax deductible moving expenses. These may include household donations to charities, as well as any moving expenses for a job-related relocation.

5 WEEKS PRIOR TO MOVE DATE | START GOING THROUGH YOUR STUFF

Start To Use Up Perishables Items

Unless you're planning to bring the food with you, it's smart to use up the contents of your fridge and pantry before moving. You can also donate non-perishables by bringing them to your local food bank.

Host a Garage Sale or Estate Sale

What better time to get rid of those old records, futons and books than right before you move? To get rid of excess items and make a few bucks in the process, try hosting a garage sale. Need help organizing it? California Curb Appeal Real Property Specialists can help you find a company to organize your estate sale, including the marketing and cleanup afterwards.

Donate The Left-Overs

The less you have to move, the better – so start the pre-move purging process early. Begin by deciding which belongings you wish to donate. You can call your local Salvation Army, Goodwill or Habitat for Humanity to schedule a pick-up for larger furnishings, free-of-charge. Also, don't forget to save any and all donation receipts for tax season.

Decide Whether or Not to Take Appliances

Not sure if your appliances will serve a purpose in your new home? It may be time to sell them. Many consignment stores will gladly accept gently-used, second-hand appliances. You can also try selling them through an online marketplace, such as Craigslist or Facebook. If you are moving appliances, schedule an appliance service company to come to your home prior to moving day to prepare all appliances for the move.

Update Memberships

Are you a member of a community organization, gym or club? Most monthly memberships need at least 30 days notice before freezing or cancelling an account. So if you haven't already done so, be sure to either end or transfer your membership.

4 WEEKS PRIOR TO MOVE DATE | CONFIRMATIONS

Service The Car

Using your own car to drive to your new home? If you're moving out of state, it's important that you have it serviced before the long drive. Call your local dealership or auto repair shop to reserve a time to check tires, fluids and brakes.

Begin Packing

Now is the time to begin packing. Start by boxing up non-essentials and seasonal items first. These could include winter coats, off-season sports gear, books and any other belongings you won't need in the weeks leading up to the move. Be sure to pack all fragile items with extra care and label boxes as clearly as possible. In addition, keep valuables and important documents separate.

Plan Temporary Housing if Needed

Need temporary housing while you look for a home in your new city? Try looking for short-term rentals online or confirm your stay with friends or relatives.

Notify Friends and Family of Your Move

If you haven't already told your friends and family you're moving, now is the time to let them know. Don't have the time to tell them in-person? Try shooting them an email or giving them a quick phone call. Making a moving announcement via social media is another easy and efficient way to let people know you're moving.

3 WEEKS PRIOR TO MOVE DATE | TRANSFERS

Notify Service Providers and Forward Mail

Let any regular service providers, such as housekeeping, landscaping and pool maintenance, know of your impending move. You may also want to take this opportunity to look into these services for your new home. Fortunately, forwarding your snail mail is an easy task that can be done ahead of time. All you have to do is go to USPS.com and choose the date you wish to begin forwarding your mail. Thinking about renting a PO Box in your new city? Call ahead and arrange that in advance.

Arrange For Childcare on the Date of Your Move

Moving babies or small children? Give yourself a break and arrange for a babysitter to watch your kids on moving day.

Transfer Utilities

Several weeks before you move, call all utility service providers to let them know about your move. Utilities include cable and internet, water and sewer, gas, electricity, satellite, security system, trash and phone. If moving within the same city, you may be able to transfer utilities to your new house. However, those moving somewhere new will need to research utility companies in the area and schedule installation dates. Make sure you have important utilities such as electricity and cable turned on in your new home before you move. Your California Curb Appeal Real Estate Agent can help with identifying the companies you will need to contact.

Gift Plants and Other Perishables

If moving a long distance, try to find new homes for your plants. Unfortunately, moving companies may not be able to transport your plants to a new state due to regulations designed to thwart the spread of pests and disease. For more information on transporting plants to a different state, check out the National Plant Board's website. The same is true for other food perishables.

Change Address for any Monetary Benefits

If you receive Pension, Social Security or Medicare benefits, be sure to update your mailing address before moving.

2 WEEKS PRIOR TO MOVE DATE | FORWARDING THE REMAINING SERVICES

Forward Medical Records

Contact your doctor and dentist to inform their offices of your move. If you haven't selected a new doctor, request referrals from your current doctor. Once you've made your selection, arrange to have your medical records transferred.

Transfer Prescriptions

Now is the time to transfer your prescriptions to a pharmacy close to your new home. You should also bring a month's supply of medications with you on the move, so that you have enough to get you through the first few weeks in your new home.

Order New Furniture

After looking over your blueprint, determine what items you still need. For big ticket items, such as a couch, sectional or bed, order these at least two weeks in advance to ensure that they will be delivered during the first month in your new home.

Secure a Parking Spot for the Moving Truck or Box

Before moving day, you'll need to figure out the best place to park the moving truck. If hiring professional movers, be sure to let them know the parking details as soon as possible. Those who live in a busy city may need to obtain a special parking permit as well.

Schedule Maintenance or Repair Persons for the New Home

Unless you're planning to paint the home yourself, you'll need to hire professionals for the job. Those looking for painters to paint the new house before moving in will need to schedule a date and time beforehand.

Update Bank Accounts and Credit Card Companies

It's time to update your bank account and credit card billing addresses. Fortunately, this can be done in less than a minute online or by phone.

Take your Pet to the Veteranarian

Don't forget to take your pet to the vet for one last check-up before you move. Be sure to obtain all shot and vaccine records as well. If your pet doesn't travel well, you may be able to get some medication to help with anxious pets.

Gather Warranty and Information Manuals

Help future residents by gathering all of your warranty information, instruction manuals, and receipts for appliances and electrical devices. Leave these in an easy-to-find location in your home before moving out.

Request Time Off From Work

Need to take off work to move? If you're moving on a weekday, go ahead and request a personal day from your employer. Those unable to take off from work for the move will need to arrange for a friend or family member to meet the movers on moving day.

1 WEEK PRIOR TO MOVE DATE | THIS IS IT, TIME TO GO!!

Clean Old Home

Don't forget to clean your old house before moving. A little bit of effort could save you a cleaning fee or charge against your security deposit. Be sure to thoroughly clean out the refrigerator and pantry as well.

Finish Last Minute Errands

Make sure you finish running any last minute errands before moving day. These could include picking up dry cleaning, getting prescriptions, cleaning out your gym locker and returning items to friends.

Pack Kitchen and Essentials

It's time to finish up the packing process by boxing up kitchenware and other essentials. Be sure to label these boxes as clearly as possible to avoid losing track of them during the moving process.

Take Care of Trash and Recyclables

Make arrangements for final trash and recycling pickup. If you're leaving before the next pick-up date, ask neighbors to place your trashcan back where it belongs after it's been picked up. You can also try dropping off trash at your local dump and recycling center before you move.

DAY BEFORE

Pack Suitcase

The day before you move, be sure to pack all necessary suitcases that you plan on taking with you. These should contain your first week essentials including pajamas, toiletries, clothing, shoes, medications, pet and baby necessities, as well as any important documents or valuables. You may also want to consider packing a special “Moving Day” box with trash bags, light bulbs, scissors, tools, flashlights, paper towels, toilet paper and bed linens.

Tell Your Neighbors

If you live in an HOA community or share a driveway with other neighbors, be sure to give them a heads-up about the move. Not only is this the respectful thing to do, but it will also give them plenty of time to move their cars.

Get Cash

Tipping movers is a nice gesture for a job well done. If you plan to tip your movers, head to the ATM now to get cash for moving day.

MOVING DAY

Stay Hydrated

Moving is a strenuous and exhausting process. The last thing you want is for anyone to become dehydrated on moving day. To prevent this from happening, be sure to have plenty of water bottles on-hand for your friends and movers.

Take Inventory

Take inventory of all belongings. This way you can keep track of what you have and what the movers are transporting. Check your driver's inventory sheet as well. If anything is missing or damaged make a note of this beforehand. It may also be a good idea to take photos of fragile items such as appliances or lamps for liability coverage and insurance purposes.

Final Walkthrough

To avoid leaving anything behind, be sure to do one final sweep of your home before you move out. Don't forget to look in your bathtubs, washers, dryers, kitchen cabinets and any other easy-to-miss spots.

HAVE A HAPPY MOVE!