

Make your move one step at a time

How should you pack? When do you call the movers? This simple checklist prioritizes every essential task, week by week.

8-7 weeks before

8 weeks before

Call your State Farm® agent

They can help with your insurance policies and, if necessary, assist you in finding an agent in your new location.

What's your moving strategy?

Are you hiring movers or asking friends to help? Will you move during the week or weekend? Look at the floor plan of your new home and decide where things will go.

Think about your money

If you'll be using movers, call for estimates and ask about moving insurance (www.statefarm.com/moving-insurance-information). Valuables could be at risk during the move.

7 weeks before

Meet with movers or friends who'll be helping

Most moving companies will visit your home to do an estimate. Get several to compare services and costs. Prefer your friends? Discuss how you'd like them to help.

Start transferring records

Moving out of town? Gather medical and dental records, find a doctor in your new neighborhood, transfer school records to your new district and send along any other important documents.

Sort and purge

What's going with you and what can be tossed? Maybe do a garage sale or donate items to a local charity. Don't forget to keep receipts for tax purposes.

Notes

Mover's Checklist:

6-5 weeks before

6 weeks before

Confirm a date with movers or friends

Compare estimates and choose a mover, or coordinate a plan with friends. Pick a move date. Some movers offer cheaper rates at certain times (be sure to ask). If you've recruited friends, arrange food and drinks for the entire day.

Start packing: sort valuables

Use our Home Inventory tools to list your items (with pictures). Keep valuables with you or mail them, insured, to your new home.

Change address

Doing this early helps avoid mail delays. You'll find change of address forms at the post office or online on the USPS website. Also, change your address with State Farm (<https://www.statefarm.com/customer-care/change-your-address>).

5 weeks before

Get supplies and start packing

Purchase packing tape, bubble wrap, furniture pads and mattress protectors. And be sure to have plenty of boxes.

Use it or lose it

Those steaks in the freezer? Grill 'em now. Use up cleaning products. Same goes for anything else you don't want to move.

Consider a storage unit

Not moving in right away? Find a place to store everything in the interim. Use a temporary storage for newly purchased furniture and other belongings.

Notes

Mover's Checklist:

4-3 weeks before

4 weeks before

Transfer utilities

Set a date to disconnect all utilities at your current home and to connect them at your new one. If selling a home, have utilities turned off when your ownership ends (or when agreed on in the sales contract). At your new home, have utilities turned on the day before you arrive. Also, be sure to collect any utility deposits.

Consider your pets

Any special care or medications they'll need during the move? Find a vet near your new home and transfer records there. Make lodging or travel arrangements for the days you'll be moving.

Think about your car

If you're shipping it, research auto shipping companies. If you're moving to a new state, register your car at your new address shortly after getting settled.

3 weeks before

Label boxes with basic content

For every room, one box should hold what you'll need the first few days. Label these boxes to be opened first, so cleaning supplies, tools, eating utensils, etc., are in easy reach.

Pack non-essential items

First pack the items that you use least frequently.

Consider hard-to-pack items

Decide whether to keep or give away items that don't travel well (plants, for example). Use up or dispose of any flammable or hazardous materials; most moving companies will not ship them.

Notes

Mover's Checklist:

3-2 weeks before

3 weeks before

Start saying goodbye

Consider hosting an informal open house or barbecue to say final farewells. Take time to visit places that hold happy memories.

Prepare to move big items

Schedule a service technician to prepare major appliances for your move. Clean rugs and draperies (cover them for protection). Don't clean upholstered furniture; the moisture could cause mold.

Make travel plans

Make hotel reservations, arrange for childcare and ensure your pets have lodging, too.

2 weeks before

Schedule time off from work

Working and moving on the same day is not ideal. Schedule time to take care of moving details.

Manage your bank accounts

If your bank doesn't have a branch in your new area, find a new one. Remember to clean out any safe deposit boxes. Also, update account information for online bill pay.

Schedule a car tuneup

Make sure the oil is changed, tires are inflated and the car is in good working order before you hit the road.

Notes

Mover's Checklist:

Moving day & arriving at your new home

1 week before

Pack what you'll need

For easy access to clothes, toiletries and medications, pack a few suitcases. Fill any prescriptions and keep a few of your kids' favorite toys on hand.

Prepare appliances

One day before you move, empty, defrost and clean your refrigerator. Unplug all electronic appliances so they're not hot. Take extra care when moving computers.

Check in with movers or friends

Check with your movers, or friends who will be helping, to confirm plans. Make sure they have your current and future addresses and the start time of your move.

Moving day

Stay close to home

Be home when movers arrive. Keep your cellphone with you, so you're available to answer any questions.

Before you load

Everything should be ready to load before moving day. Check the truck, trailer or portable container for cracks, leaks or other signs of wear. Raise any concerns with the movers before loading.

Loading

It's easiest to load the truck if you decide where everything goes first. Load items you need the least first, then boxes with the most essential content.

Close up house

Check all closets, cabinets and rooms to make sure you didn't leave anything. Take out the garbage, lock the windows and leave a note with your contact information for the new owners.

Arriving at your new location

Chances are you'll arrive at your new home before your movers. Make sure all the utilities have been connected. Have a cashier's check on hand to pay the mover.

Notes
