

MOVING DAY

Use this moving day to-do list to keep it all straight on the big day.

CURRENT HOME

- **Say goodbye.** Take time to say a proper “so long” to your old house before things get hectic. Children, in particular, benefit from some closure: Walk through the house recalling fond memories you have, and talk about what fun you’ll create in your new home.
- **Meet the movers.** Greet the moving crew and ensure that all workers are representatives of the moving company you hired. Be sure the moving truck’s U.S. Department of Transportation license number is the same as the number on your estimate.
- **Supervise the load-in.** Assign a helper to watch the moving crew stack your belongings inside the truck, keeping an eye out for damage.
- **Clean the old house.** Tidy up rooms as the moving crew empties them, or consider hiring a cleaning service.
- **Keep valuables with you.** Be sure the movers don’t mistakenly load boxes containing your laptop, jewelry, passports and other irreplaceables you should keep near you at all times.
- **Make a final walk-through.** Lock your old home’s windows and doors, turn off lights and ceiling fans, and make sure nothing’s left before you leave for good.

NEW HOME

- **Roll out the carpet protector.** Lay down plastic carpet protector at the new house, if your movers haven’t already done so.
- **Show the moving crew around.** Point out specific rooms so boxes end up where they belong.
- **Watch for damage and missing items.** Your movers will make an inventory sheet, called the “bill of lading,” that notes the condition of your items, including damage to any boxes or furniture.
- **Pay the movers.** Complete the transaction using the payment method you agreed to when you confirmed the move. If the moving crew did a good job, a tip of 10 to 15 percent of the total fee is customary.
- **Get it in writing.** Before the movers leave, sign the inventory sheet — and make sure the mover in charge signs it, too. Get a copy for your records.
- **Do an initial clean.** Vacuum and mop floors before you set down furniture; wipe down countertops; and do a deep clean of tubs, showers and toilets.
- **Assemble furniture.** Grab your toolbox and start reassembling furniture; don’t wait until your helpers have gone home.
- **Start unpacking.** If you notice any damage to your boxes, set them aside until the moving company can return to inspect them. Take photos of the damage for your records.

NUMBERS TO KNOW

The contacts you may need on moving day:

Moving company

Realtor

Electric company (OLD)

Electric company (NEW)

Gas company (OLD)

Gas company (NEW)

Cable/Internet/satellite/phone provider (OLD)

Cable/Internet/satellite/phone provider (NEW)

Water services (OLD)

Water services (NEW)

Homeowners association (OLD)

Homeowners association (NEW)
