

## 8 weeks before your move

- Schedule an in-home moving quote (if you're not moving yourself)
- Do a complete home inventory: What stays and what goes?
- Begin packing items from basements, sheds and attics
- Start or complete a move out checklist of repairs, replacements and cleanup required by buyers or inspectors
- Take a farewell family picture of your house before the move

## 6 weeks before

- Donate items to charities
- Plan a garage sale
- Get copies of school and medical records
- Label all audio, video and computer cables and take pictures for easy reassembly
- Continue packing, going room by room

## 4 weeks before

- File your change of address with the U.S. Postal Service
- Make arrangements for transporting plants and pets
- Contact utility providers and insurance companies
- If you're self-packing, gather supplies and pack items you won't need right away in your new home
- Collect items you've lent to friends and family

## 2 weeks before

- Collect important documents that will travel with you, instead of in moving boxes:
  - Birth certificates
  - Marriage licenses
  - Automobile titles and registrations
  - Insurance papers
  - Bank records
  - Medical records
  - School records
  - Veterinary records

- Sketch a layout of your new home to show movers (or yourself) where to place heavy items, so you won't have to rearrange them later

## 1 week before

- Settle all outstanding accounts with local businesses
- Set aside items you're taking with you, like:
  - Cell phones and chargers
  - Prescription medicine
  - Car keys
  - Travel clothing and toiletries
- Collect items you've hidden, like spare house or car keys
- Get medications refilled
- Pack an "Open Me First" box with essentials like:
  - Paper towels
  - Soap
  - Toilet paper
  - Light bulbs
- Exchange cell phone numbers with your movers and current neighbors
- Sweep, mop, wipe-down and clean your current home as necessary according to your move out checklist
- Empty and defrost the fridge

## Moving day

- Leave garage door openers and keys for the next owner
- Make sure someone is available to direct movers and answer questions
- Double-check all mover documentation like "bills of lading" and inventory lists