

Moving Timeline:

- **Prepare for the Move (3-4 months before move date):**

1. **Declutter and Downsize:**

Get rid of unwanted items through selling, donating, or recycling. This reduces packing needs and makes the move lighter.

2. **Secure Your New Place:**

Sign a lease or finalize the purchase of your new home.

3. **Schedule Utilities:**

Contact providers for electricity, water, gas, internet, and trash removal to ensure they're activated at your new place on move-in day.

4. **Book Movers (if needed):**

Research and compare moving companies for quotes if you're not doing a DIY move. Book them well in advance, especially during peak seasons.

5. **Gather Packing Supplies:**

Stock up on boxes, packing tape, bubble wrap, packing peanuts, and markers for labeling.

6. **Change of Address:**

Notify the post office and other relevant services (subscriptions, banks) of your upcoming move.

7. **Create a Moving Checklist:**

Organize a list of tasks to ensure you don't miss anything important leading up to and during the move.

- **Packing Up (1-2 months before move date):**

1. **Pack a "First Day Box":**

Pack essentials you'll need immediately upon arrival at your new place, such as toiletries, medications, a change of clothes, PJs, and basic cookware.

2. **Pack Room by Room:**

Start with rooms you use less frequently and pack them completely. Label boxes clearly with the room name and contents.

3. **Disassemble Furniture:**

Disassemble large furniture for easier transport and reassemble at the new place.

4. **Take Care of Finances:**

Set-up new bank accounts and deposits; close safe deposits and transfer records and assets to new bank or investment advisor. Make sure you have adequate insurance. Pay any unpaid traffic tickets, claims, and taxes. Outstanding "penalties" can delay registration in other jurisdictions.

5. **Other Documents:**

Arrange transfer of existing doctor, dentist, veterinary, and any other family, school, and financial records by providing a signed letter for transfer authorization.

6. Arrange Travel:

Map out your move trip and arrange overnight stay if needed. Consider travel arrangements for small children, elderly parents, and pets. Service any vehicles that will be used for the move. Secure parking space for the moving truck load and unload.

• Moving Day:

1. Load the Truck:

Load the moving truck strategically, placing heavier items on the bottom and lighter boxes on top.

2. Ensure Safe Transport of Valuables:

Carry important documents and valuables with you in your car for safekeeping.

3. Meet the Movers or DIY Move:

If using movers, oversee the loading process and address any questions. If it's a DIY move, be prepared for the physical effort and/or enlist the help of family, friends, and other.

• Settling In (After the Move):

1. Unpack Essentials:

Unpack your "First Day Box" first to have immediate access to necessities.

2. Reconnect Utilities:

Confirm utilities are activated in your new place and that the old utilities in your prior place have been disconnected.

3. Furniture Placement:

Arrange furniture in each room according to your preferences.

4. Unpack Gradually:

Unpack room by room at your own pace.

5. Update Important Documents:

Update your address on driver's licenses, registrations, and other important documents.

• Additional Tips:

1. Take Photos:

Photograph the condition of your old and new places before moving in and out, in case of any damage claims.

2. Label Everything:

Clearly label boxes for easier unpacking and organization in your new home.

3. Fuel the Move:

Have snacks and drinks readily available for moving day.

4. Ask for Help:

Don't hesitate to ask friends or family for help with packing, loading, or unloading.