

Moving Tips

1. Give your forwarding address to the post office a couple weeks ahead of the move.
2. Mentally and emotionally prepare yourself (and the kids!). See our reading suggestions for moving preparation.
3. Notify your credit card companies, magazine subscriptions, and bank of the change of address.
4. Develop a list of friends, relatives, and business colleagues who need to be notified of the move.
5. Arrange to have utilities disconnected at your old home and connected at your new one.
6. Cancel the newspaper.
7. Check insurance coverage for moved items. Usually movers only cover what they pack.
8. Clean out appliances and prepare them for moving, if applicable.
9. If using a moving company, watch for movers that use excessive padding to add weight.
10. Check with your condo or co-op about restrictions on using the elevator or particular exits.
11. Have a "first open" box with the things you'll need most—toilet paper, soap, trash bags, scissors, hammer, screwdriver, pencils and paper, cups and plates, water, snacks, and toothpaste.

Plus, if you're moving out of town...

1. Get copies of medical and dental records and prescriptions for your family and your pets.
2. Get copies of kids' school records (or have them transferred ahead).
3. Ask friends for introductions to anyone they know in your new town.
4. Consider special car needs for pets when traveling.
5. Let a friend or relative know your route.
6. Carry traveler's checks or an ATM card for ready cash until you can open a bank account.
7. Empty your safety deposit box.
8. Put plants in boxes with holes for air circulation if you're moving in cold weather.