

Long Distance Moving Checklist

1-2 months before Moving Day

- Create a moving binder for record keeping: receipts, estimates, inventory, moving company docs, etc.
- If moving for work, see if the employer provides moving expenses
- Research your moving company: review testimonials, request quotes, onsite estimates for unique items, etc.
- Sort your items: keep, donate, sell, toss (stick to it!)
- Order moving supplies: boxes, packing tape, bubble wrap, permanent markers, etc.
- Measure the new house and decide how furniture will fit through tricky entries and staircases

- Pack things first that aren't used often (note: make sure to label the boxes for easy unloading: room & contents)
- Keep an open box aside for tools/parts/equipment that you'll want handy on moving day
- Make any home repairs that you have been delaying
- Return borrowed, checked, and rented items and get things back that you have lent out
- Start using up things you don't want to move: food, toiletries, cleaning supplies
- Start thinking about and plan how you will move pets and what needs to go with them if you aren't transporting them

3-4 weeks before Moving Day

- Finalize your moving method (DIY, hire movers)
- Notify important services: banks, subscriptions, credit cards, insurance & utilities of move date & address
- Drain fluid from small engines: lawn mowers, snow blowers, weed trimmers, chainsaws, etc.
- Stock up on medications you'll need during the next couple months
- Research vaccinations if moving to a different region
- Mark valuables with DO NOT MOVE and make a record of these boxes; keep aside to transport yourself

- Obtain MEDICAL RECORDS and send copies to new schools, doctors, or insurance companies
- Provide important people in your life with your new contact information
- Visit friends and family; plan a going-away party
- Start packing! TIP: Make sure you pack your items for the long haul - use bubble wrap, boxes marked 'fragile', etc.
- Pick a new school for your children
- Research your new area to find local restaurants, shops, etc.

1-2 weeks before Moving Day

- Continue to pack, cleaning as you go
- Plan to take the day off on moving day to supervise
- Plan babysitting for small children if needed
- Get your car tuned up: ask about climate change effects if moving to another region
- Clean out your safety-deposit box if you have one
- Confirm plans with the moving company
- Plan a hotel stay if moving more than 8 hours away

- Plan your payment method for the moving company: credit card, cash, etc.
- Transfer homeowner's or renter's insurance to your new address
- Be sure to confirm the delivery timeline, so that you aren't left without necessary items at the new home
- Make plans for houseplants: for many, it's best to give them away and buy new ones when you arrive, as plants can damage during transport

A few days before Moving Day

- Defrost your freezer at least 24hrs before moving day
- Reconfirm the details with the moving company and provide directions with your phone number
- Finish packing

- Pack a suitcase with toiletries, a few days' worth of clothes, and sentimental items to have while you unpack
- Back up computer files then, carefully, pack the computer

Moving Day

- Lock windows, clean closets, turn off utilities
- Record your meter readings right before you leave
- Disconnect telephone

- Pack mattresses in a box or mattress bag to protect it in a long move
- Clarify special packaging, run of play, etc., for movers
- Surrender keys, say goodbye!

*As always, Five Star Movers would be pleased to be your moving company of choice.
 We offer moving services across the GTA and the entire province of Ontario and are proudly Canadian.*

*With over two decades in the professional moving business, we are knowledgeable, reliable and affordable.
 We are also fully licensed, bonded and insured for your safety.*

