

Moving Guide

2 Months Before

- Most Importantly; download and print this moving guide!
- Arrange a conveyancing solicitor to handle the legal aspect of moving home.
- If you're renting, confirm your moving in date with the landlord.
- If you're buying, arrange and finalise your mortgage.

6 Weeks To Go

- Arrange a Surveyor to ensure you have a full picture of your new property and can arrange any repairs/works necessary before you move.
- Begin to de-clutter – you'll be surprised what's lurking in cupboards, attics and sheds! Go through the kids' toys, slim down your wardrobe and shred any paperwork you no longer need. Maybe even do a car boot sale to get rid of your unwanted items?
- Get quotes for removals and storage companies – ensure they are fully insured and have good reviews.
- Create a full inventory, room-by-room, to help with organizing and unpacking.
- Organise for fragile items to be packed and transported separately.

4 Weeks To Go

- Finalise moving date with all parties.
- Compare Storage/Removal companies and remember to ask to see copies of their insurance so you know your belongings are in safe hands. Book and confirm your moving date.
- Start packing non-essential items such as shed contents, kids' toys, ornaments and soft furnishings.
- Organise time off work, childcare and a hotel if required.
- Cancel subscriptions, settle final bills or arrange to transfer services with your main suppliers.

2 Weeks To Go

- Begin to dispose of any flammable materials and liquids which cannot be transported with you
- Arrange access parking with neighbours and let them know there will be some disruption on the day – you don't want to have to carry your precious belongings half way down your street!
- Arrange a plumber or electrician to attend your property prior to the big move to disconnect/dismantle your appliances safely.
- Start using everything in your freezer and all perishable foods – time to get creative with mealtimes!
- Arrange with Royal Mail to re-direct your post to your new address – it's a great service, which helps in case you forget to change your addresses with important agencies and prevents potential fraud if an errant bank statement should end up at your old address. Its costs approximately £32 for 3 months.

1 Week To Go

- Defrost your freezer.
- Collate all your important documents to transport with you on the day – passports, deeds, wills etc. Pack them all together in your Personal Box.
- Label all boxes to show which room they need delivering to. Also put post-it notes on the doors of your new property to help removal men to arrange them quickly and easily. Use colour coding if you wish.
- Notify schools, doctors, banks etc of your new address.
- Collect all keys from your existing property, remembering keys to outbuildings, gates and sheds, and arrange collection of your new ones.

The Day Before

- Check your Personal Box has everything you need.
- Make up an “Essentials Box” – milk, bread, tea, coffee and toilet rolls, with some basic cleaning products. Maybe a bottle of Champagne to toast your new home?
- Double check all appliances are disconnected.
- Pack all remaining boxes – you may find it helpful to tape user manuals and remote controls to appliances to help you get set up quickly in your new home.
- Charge your phone and set your alarm nice and early!

Moving Day!

Old Home

- Take final meter readings to give to your existing suppliers.
- Check all windows and doors are secure.
- Do final walk-around and check everything is loaded onto the van – remember to check cupboards, attics and sheds.

New Home

- Take opening meter readings
- Inspect the new property before anything is unloaded and ensure it is child and pet-friendly. Remember to check garden perimeter is secure – if a pet escapes, they will be disoriented in their new surroundings.
- Ensure rooms have been fully emptied by previous occupant and dispose of any rubbish that may have been left behind.
- Hoover all rooms and wipe down skirting boards and windowsills – moving house can be a dusty business and its great to start afresh.
- Unpack your Personal and Essentials boxes, open that bottle of champagne and toast your lovely new home!