

CHECK LISTS

Two Months before your move

- **Begin sorting out the items that you won't bring.** If you don't need it, get rid of it, have a yard sale. Some things to consider, clothes that you don't wear anymore or ones that won't fit in to your new climate, old books you'll never read again, etc.
- **Begin your search for a relocation company.** Two months is normally enough time however if you are planning on moving in the summer months, it's a good idea to search 10 weeks in advance. Decide if you want to pack yourself or have professionals pack for you. It will be more expensive if the relocation company performs the packing, however you will have a better guarantee with insurance coverage in the event of breakage.
- **Insurance.** Make sure to ask each relocation company about their insurance policies, what it covers and their protocol in the event any breakage should occur.
- **Begin talking to your young children about the move.** Relocation to a new area can be traumatic for young children. Prepare them in advance to help lessen the time needed to adjust to their new climate.

One Month before your move

- **Start Packing.** Purchased packing material (boxes, tape, markers, etc.) Pack rarely used items such as china or off-season clothes. When packing, remember that it's most important to fill boxes to capacity, under-filled boxes may get crushed, but be careful not to over-fill boxes as they may fall apart. Boxes once fully packed should only weigh between 25-35 lbs each.
- **Save all your bills.** Don't throw away your last bills--they have crucial information like account numbers and customer service telephone numbers which will help you change your utilities, credit cards, magazine subscriptions, etc.
- **Get a copy of medical records.** We've just heard too many horror stories of people losing medical records because they don't see a physician or dentist for a while, etc. Get a copy of your medical records and transfer them to a new physician in your new location.

Two Weeks before your move

- **Cancel your local newspaper.** Or change the address if you get a major national paper delivered to your house.
- **Notify all financial accounts of your move.** Banks, credit cards, brokerages (401k, personal stocks/mutual funds, other investments, etc.) all need to know your new address. Make a list and call/write them all!

Three Days Before your move

- **Disconnect major appliances.** Refrigerator, washer and dryer, etc. should all be disconnected, defrosted, and dried out.
- **Finish packing!**
- **Valuables.** There are a small number of things that you'll probably want to carry with you or in a personal suitcase. Passport, jewelry, cash, house deeds and other important documents should be set aside and stored in a safe place.
- **First Night.** For each member of your household, you'll want to pack a few nights' worth of clothes, bedding, toiletries, etc. And dishware for meals. Remember that it will take you some time to UNPACK on the other end!

Moving Day

- **Enjoy!** Since you've prepared so well, just relax while the movers load your well-packed boxes onto the truck!