

# The Ultimate Moving Home Guide

**Moving Made Simple: Step-by-Step Instructions for Effortless Relocation**



# Ready, Set, Move: Your Moving Journey Begins

Get ready to breeze through every step of your upcoming move. From crafting a stellar game plan and getting movers on board to tackling address updates, nailing down utilities, and becoming the packing champion, we've got you covered.

Plus, stick around till the end for our secret weapon: a printable moving timeline and checklist, your essential partner for a move that's as smooth as it gets.

## Table of Contents

<b>Step 1: Plan Your Move</b>	<b>3</b>
• Plan a moving timeline	4
• Declutter	4
• Packing material	5
<b>Step 2: Arrange Your Move</b>	<b>6</b>
• Research movers	7
• Plan a DIY move	7
• Navigate home renovations	8
<b>Step 3: Update Your Utilities &amp; Address</b>	<b>9</b>
• Change your address & checklist	10
• Transfer utilities	10
<b>Step 4: Start Packing</b>	<b>11</b>
• "How to pack" guide	12
<b>Printable Moving Home Timeline &amp; Checklist</b>	<b>15</b>



# Step 1: Plan Your Move

Ever heard the old saying, 'Fail to plan, plan to fail'? It might sound like a broken record, but when it comes to moving homes, going in blind is a recipe for chaos and stress.

But don't panic – we're here to light the way. Get ready to create a full-on plan that covers all the bases and ensures your journey is nothing short of smooth sailing.

## 1) Map out your moving timeline

Ever wondered when to kickstart the moving whirlwind? Here's our hard-earned nugget of wisdom: the sooner the better!

First, nail down your moving day. Work backwards from that date to sketch out a timeline of your to-dos and their due dates.

Don't shrug off the magnitude of tasks involved in a move, or how time can slip through your fingers. Trust us – time will soon fly by and suddenly you'll have only half your house packed the day before moving.

You need a game plan that gives you ample time to get everything done, allowing for those unexpected hiccups that might pop up as well.



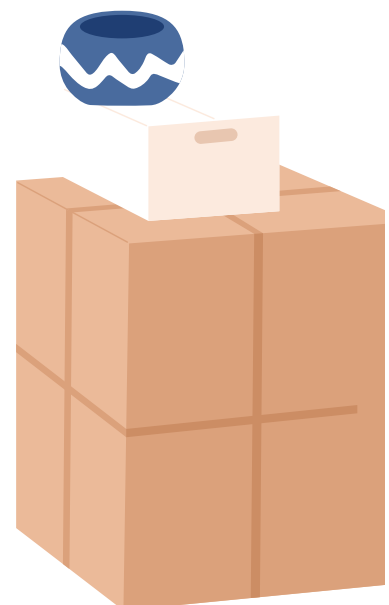
Feeling lost plotting your moving timeline? Don't sweat it. Hop over to **Section 5**, where we've got a ready-made timeline and checklist for you.

## 2) Declutter your belongings

Moving house presents the golden opportunity to bid farewell to those knick-knacks that have overstayed their welcome.

Pause and ponder: what in your house is ready for a new chapter? Sell, donate, recycle, or wave goodbye to anything you don't use or need anymore.

**Pro Tip:** If some items hold sentimental value, are seasonal, or you just need to store somewhere safe for a while, a self-storage space could be your decluttering ally, keeping them safe and sound till their next call to duty. Find a local storage space using our trusty **Storage Finder**.



### 3) Stock up on packing materials

Now, you might be thinking, "I've got a stash of tape in the garage and boxes aplenty. No need for extra spending."

But here's the scoop – packaging materials vanish quicker than you'd expect. To save you from surprises, we've got a list of must-haves for your packing.

- |                                     |                       |                                     |                                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Sturdy packaging tape | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Tough garbage bags              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Labels                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Bubble wrap & brown paper       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Scissors              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Port-a-robies for clothing      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box cutters           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Small boxes for heavier items   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Sturdy packaging tape | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Larger boxes for items & linens |

**Top tip:** Use [Storage Finder](#) to find a local self-storage facility near you that sells moving boxes and more. Most will delivery directly to your door.

### 4) Safeguard your vital documents

Moving is a whirlwind, and even the best-laid plans can hit a bump. One nightmare to dodge? Misplacing crucial moving documents in the sea of boxes. Keep a watchful eye on your must-have documents that are essential for the move, by assembling a moving binder.

### 5) Book time off work

Let's be real – moving homes is a mammoth mission, and it can hit even harder when paired alongside full-time work. Requesting time off can be the key to a smooth transition.

We recommend at least a few days: Some time before the move to wrap up those last-minute packing or cleaning chores, and a few days after to get cosy in your new home. Make sure to give your employer enough notice as well.



## Step 2: Arrange Your Move

Whether you're going solo or enlisting professional movers, there's a lot on the menu to chew over when it comes to planning the big day.

Let's dive in and dissect the art of arranging your move for a hiccup-free moving day.

## 1) Research moving companies

If you're sitting on a mountain of belongings or simply want to keep the move hassle-free, pro movers could be your knight in shining armour.

Start by researching trustworthy moving companies near you. We recommend using an AFRA-accredited mover to ensure you're moving with a professional. But hold your horses – don't forget the money matters.

Moving companies can be a pricey option, so delve into the cost details. Most importantly, snoop around for reviews and their insurance coverage as well.

**Top tip:** Check your own insurance policy and its coverage as well. What will and won't be covered during transit?

## 2) Do-it-yourself

Hey, if you're all about the solo journey, then let's do this! But even lone wolves could use a pack sometimes. Friends and family can swoop in to save the day, lightening the moving load – literally.

The trick? Ask ahead of time, not as a last-minute panic. Your pals have plans too, and they're less likely to be free if you ask them close to the moving date.



Don't forget! Most regular cars won't cut it for moving the majority of furniture.

Did you know many self storage facilities offer utes, trailers, vans and trucks for hire? Use **Storage Finder** to find your local self storage facility and see what's on offer to help make your move easy.

### 3) Navigate renovations & redecorating

Are you planning to dive into the realm of redecorating or remodelling, either before you list your house for sale, or before you move into your new home? If yes, have you considered how your stuff will fit into this plan?

Picture a construction zone where your belongings are scattered in between paint cans and work-benches. Not the party you envisioned, right?

### The solution? Find **Self Storage** Near You

Here's the savvy strategy: **stash your non-essential things in storage** before you move everything in.

Keep your new home clear for your makeover plans, and make life easier – and less stressful – for yourself. No risk of furniture casualties or paint splatter dramas.

Plus, you'll have more space and freedom to get your decorating done.

**FIND STORAGE SPACE**







## Step 3: Update Your Utilities & Address

Moving isn't just about hauling boxes – oh no, there's a whole admin universe to conquer too. You don't want to end up in a candlelit new home or taking chilly showers, right? Cue transferring your utilities.

Oh, and don't forget changing your address! This section's got the full scoop, plus a trusty checklist to keep you on point. Admin, consider yourself owned!

## 1) Change your address and transfer utilities

- **Change your address:** It might seem obvious, but you'd be surprised that in the chaos of moving, a lot of people don't realise they have to inform others they've moved. If you've ever had to navigate life with an outdated address, you know it can cause a lot of problems. Whip up a list of companies you'll need to switch addresses at, including: government pals, banks, credit cards, every subscription you're hooked on, and more.
- **Transfer your utilities:** This one's a must-do - otherwise you'll find yourself sitting in the dark in your new home. Dial up your water, gas, and electricity suppliers, specify your move-in and move-out dates, and request a transfer game plan. And don't forget: snap photos of your meter readings at both your old and new home. (Sneaky tip? Time to flex your haggling muscles. Cheaper rates or new providers might be calling your name so make sure you take the time to research other options).
- **Update any further services:** Phone, internet, TV, insurance providers, and more - they're all part of the same game. Don't leave them in the dark about your move: update them pronto with your new address.

### Checklist

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Driving license	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gas supplier
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tax Office	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Electricity supplier
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Electoral roll	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Water supplier
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Banking & credit cards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Home phone & internet
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Investment & pension schemes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Health providers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Insurance providers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mobile phone contracts
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Subscriptions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TV providers



## Step 4: Start Packing

The most difficult part of moving: packing. It's the marathon that can stretch for weeks, or even months, and it doesn't reach the finish line until you're on the move.

But with a dollop of planning and a sprinkle of packing prowess, you're in for smooth sailing. Explore our complete packing playbook in this section. We're spilling the beans on moving-day MVPs, the top-tier tactics for perfect packing, and even the art of handling pesky variables like food and labelling to keep on top of everything.

## 1) Build a moving-day essentials kit

Now it's time to imagine that you're finally moved to your new abode, and all your craving is to crash in bed after the hard day's work.

But guess what? Those bed sheets? Hidden somewhere deep in a mountain of boxes. Bummer, right?

Say hello to your moving-day lifesaver – the essentials box. Before the big pack-up, plot out the things you'll need pronto once you're in your new home. Keep these items apart and easily reachable on moving day to save you any unpacking hassles once you arrive.

Check out our suggested list of essentials for your first day in your new chapter.

- Bathroom essentials: toilet paper, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, deodorant, etc
- First aid and medications
- Bedtime essentials: bedding, towels, duvet, pillows, and pyjamas
- Kitchen: kettle, tea, coffee, (disposable) plates, cups, and cutlery
- Paper towels and tissues
- Snacks, water, and the long-lasting milk
- Cleaning: garbage bags, sponges, washing up liquid, bleach etc
- Scissors and tools for furniture assembly
- A few days' clothing options
- Pet essentials (if furry friends are in the mix)
-

## 2) Crack on with packing – Your "How To Pack" guide

Time to face the beast that is packing. It's okay to feel a little overwhelmed before starting, but procrastinating only adds fuel to the fire. To help you get started, we've got the lowdown on pro-level packing that'll empower you to dive in immediately.

### Best tips for packing:

- Wrap fragile items in bubble wrap or brown paper.
- Make sure to protect glassware adequately.
- Don't go overboard with the bubblewrap – most items will be fine wrapped in paper.
- Pack items that are heavier at the bottom of boxes.
- Fill empty spaces in boxes to prevent items from moving around (which increases the chance of breakage).
- Pack electronic devices or appliances in their original box if you still have them. If not, make sure to use bubble wrap, paper, and tape to properly protect them.

### Packing food:

- Complete a food inventory of your pantry, fridge, and freezer.
- Eat what you can of the perishable items and cook food using your pantry items before the move.
- Donate or gift food that you don't want, or chuck any food that's out of date and no longer usable.
- Consider ordering a grocery delivery to your new address. You'll have plenty to do once you get into the house, going to the supermarket is easily removed.



## Packing & labelling hacks:

Sure, meticulously labelling everything might feel like an extra chore as you pack, but believe us, this added effort will pay off big time when you're at your new place faced with that towering stack of boxes.

- **Pack room by room:** start with one room at a time to stay organised and keep items together.
- **Colour-code your boxes** by the rooms they belong to.
- **Label each box:** write a list of the main contents so you know what each box contains.
- **Label clearly:** especially if you've hired movers. Make sure labels are clear and direct, telling the movers which room to take each box.
- **Use coloured tape for cords and cables.** You'll be able to easily match them with the correct device when you're unpacking and re-installing things in your new home.





# Printable Moving Timeline & Checklist

Print out the upcoming section, pin it proudly on your fridge, and let the 'to-dos' tumble like dominos. In a flash, you'll stride into your new home, having navigated the transition like a pro.

Nestle into your new haven with the cozy assurance that you've nailed the essentials, your boxes are organised and wear their labels like VIP badges, and your sparkling new home is ready to welcome you.

# Your moving house timeline & checklist

## 6 – 8 weeks to go

- Book moving company / Ask friends and family for help with moving
- Rent / borrow a van (if needed)
- Start decluttering: donate or sell items you don't want to take with you
- Decide if you need storage & book a unit: [www.selfstorage.com.au](http://www.selfstorage.com.au)
- Get your packaging materials (boxes, tape, bags, bubble wrap, etc)
- Book time off work (give plenty of notice to your boss and team)
- Provide appropriate notice to your landlord (if renting)
- Measure furniture & compare dimensions - make sure it will fit
- Make a food inventory & start using things
- Book travel accommodations if required for a longer move

## 2 – 4 weeks to go

- Make a list of where you need to change address & contact them
- Arrange for disconnection & reconnection of utilities
- Arrange & pack important paperwork - keep safe & easy-to-access
- Confirm all your bookings



- Begin packing – start with what you use the least and won't miss
- Label boxes with their contents & room as you pack
- Book cleaners & gardeners (if you are not doing this yourself)
- Assemble your “essentials” moving day box

## 1 week to go

- Clean out your fridge and freezer
- Schedule a grocery delivery to your new house for after you move
- Unplug & pack any non-essential appliances
- Disassemble non-essential furniture
- Dispose of rubbish & ensure unwanted items are donated or sold
- Arrange to collect the keys of your new property
- Refill prescriptions so you don't run out during the transfer period
- Finish packing a few days before

## Moving day & beyond

- Pack any last items
- Disassemble the last furniture
- Collect any hire vehicles
- Complete your condition report if you're a renter
- Remove any leftover food and pack

- Load the van OR supervise movers loading the truck
- Tidy and clean each room as you go to complete a final inspection
- Record meter readings at your old property and new one
- Supervise unloading the truck
- Clean your new property before unpacking
- Transfer utilities and set up your internet
- Start unpacking and enjoy your new home!

