The Definitive Moving House Checklist

Two Months Before

- **Pick a Moving date**
  First things first, you need to pick a definitive moving date for your move. After you’ve made a decision when you are going to move, you can then plan more effectively around that specific date.

- **Check your rent contract**
  If you’re renting, double check your contract to see how long you have to give for your notice period. The standard is 30 days, but it can vary from contract to contract.

- **Check out your new neighbourhood**
  Have a look on Google Maps or visit your new neighbourhood to check out the supermarkets, shops, restaurants, schools, laundrettes, and other places. This is good for working out where and how far your basic needs are from your new home.

- **Book the days you need off work**
  You should let your employer know as soon as possible when you are planning to move so you can book the days off work for your move.

- **Check if your new property needs a connection**
  If it could be the case that your new property does not have a gas or electricity connection yet and you will need to set this up. You will need to contact your **Distribution Network Operator (DNO)** to get this sorted.

One Month Before

- **Book a Removals Company**
  Have a look at different removals companies and compare quotes for your move. You’ll want to book this as soon as possible so avoid delays. Get at least three quotes to see which is best.

- **Notify your Utilities and Broadband Companies**
Let your energy, water, and broadband companies know that you’re leaving at least a month in advance. Although it usually only takes two weeks, you never know what delays you might have.

**Update address with your Local Authority**
Make sure you’ve informed your local council about your move so you can close your old council tax payments and register to vote in your new area.

**Make a list of your belongings**
Start making lists of your belongings such as furniture so you can begin to categorise and organise them so make your packing and unpacking much easier.

**Redirect post**
Contact the post office to get your post redirected. You can let them know by using the [Royal Mail Redirection Service](https://www.royalmail.com/redirection).

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Two Weeks Before Your Move

**Begin packing non-essentials**
Start packing non-essentials such as spare or seasonal clothes as well as towels or bed clothes that you won’t be using.

**Use up frozen food**
Try and use up any frozen food you have left in your freezer and try to buy for the short term.

**Look into storage if you need it**
If you are downsizing or you are unsure how everything will fit in your new place, consider renting some storage space for a short period of time to make sure you have a place for them.

One Week Before Your Move

**If you’re renting, go through an inventory**
If you’ve been renting a flat or house, you should go through your inventory to make sure everything is in order for your landlord to have the place ready for the next tenant. Do a careful inspection to make sure everything is in order.

**Pack up furniture**
Disassemble and pack up any furniture so it's easier to transport and all ready for moving day.

- **Take down pictures and fixtures**
  If you have any pictures, shelves, or fixtures that belong to you, you should do a sweep of all the walls to take them down.

- **Organise a locksmith for your new place**
  If you have bought a property, you should consider changing the locks so you can get a fresh pair of keys. This is good for security reasons.

- **Label your moving boxes**
  Carefully label your moving boxes according to the rooms that items belong in. This will be handy when you load the moving van so you know which section each box belongs in.

**Two Days Before Your Move**

- **Get the washing done**
  Make sure you have all your clothes washed and dried for your move and have set aside clothes for the next two days.

- **Defrost the freezer**
  Empty both your fridge and freezer. Defrost the freezer so it’s clear to disconnect it.

- **Disconnect appliances**
  Disconnect any appliances you won’t use such as your dishwasher, cooker, washing machine, so they’re ready for you to take with you.

- **Deep clean your house or flat**
  Either clean your house or flat yourself or hire a cleaner to make sure everything is all spotless for when you move out.

**Moving Day**

- **Pack the moving van**
  You should pack the moving van so it's easiest to unload when you get to your new property. Make sure your boxes are labelled so you can load them in sections.

- **One last sweep**
  Do one last sweep of the house to make sure you haven’t left anything in a cupboard or a drawer.

- **Take final meter readings**
  Take final meter readings from your electricity, gas, and water meters to make sure you get accurate final bills.
Lock up
Lock any windows and doors so the place is safe and secure for you to leave.

Hand over keys
Finally, hand over your keys to your landlord or the next occupants.

After Moving

Take first meter readings
Take meter readings as soon as you move in so you can carry on paying your bills for your new property.

Pay Stamp Duty
If you have bought a house, you’ll have 30 days to pay the Stamp Duty bill.

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