



Moving Checklist

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○ STEP 1 - Early Prep: Be Ready For Moving Day

- 1. As soon as you have time, do a **complete cleaning of your home**. Use the opportunity to throw away any accumulated junk and pack away items that you rarely use... It'll make it easier for you when the packing really starts.
- 2. **Create a folder on your computer** to store all the check lists, spreadsheets, estimates and such that you will work with during the preparation of your move. Being organized rules! Also, create a digital copy of all important documentations you have at home and save it there.
- 3. Make a list of large appliances and furniture you will need to move. You will need this to decide on a moving truck size or get a proper estimate for movers. It will also give you a better idea of the scope of the work. **Make an inventory of your belongings!**
- 4. **Identify any items that need special care** such as firearms, paintings and fine art, glass or fragile cabinets, pool tables and pianos. You'll need to gather adequate wrapping for these and inform your mover.
- 5. If possible, **take measurements of the dimensions at your new address**. It will help you plan your furniture placement.
- 6. Make a list of major pieces to **give away or sell**.
- 7. **Rent storage space** for any items you do not want to sell or give away.
- 8. **Inform your boss in advance**. In Canada, your employer is obliged to let you take the day off if you need it to move, but you have to tell him/her first!
- 9. Have a plan on how to **make this day fun for the kids**. They can be useful when it comes to packing their toys and moving small boxes.
- 10. Find someone to **take care of your animal(s) on moving day**. It is a stressful experience for your best friend!

○ STEP 2 - Booking the best moving team

- 1. **Book your movers or your truck in advance**.
When choosing a mover, evaluate the following:
- 2. **Check BBB ratings, Google and Facebook reviews**.
Make sure the mover is an actual pro!
- 3. **Compare at least three prices**.
You may be surprised by the difference between companies.
- 4. Make sure the **estimate is comprehensive and realistic** considering what you need to move. Some movers may quote a cheap price and charge extra on the moving date. Ask how many movers will be present.
- 5. Validate that **moving insurance** is included and that the moving company guarantees any items that may be broken during the move.

- 6. **Have a backup plan**. It may sound alarmist, but what happens if the mover does not show up or cannot complete the job the same day? Make sure you have someone to call.

○ STEP 3 - Supplies for packing and more

At this stage, you already know **WHAT** you will be moving (step 1 of the move checklist) and **HOW** you will be moving (step 2 of the move checklist). Hence, you should be able to evaluate the quantity required for each of the following items.

Don't wait until the last minute only to find the stores have already closed.

- 1. **Blankets** for safe packing.
- 2. **Order boxes** online or **get them used from groceries and stores**. You can rent plastic boxes as well and get them delivered to your home!
- 3. Get some **tape, bubble wrap and markers** for your boxes.
- 4. **Moving straps** are essential if you plan on moving appliances with friends. Don't break your back over ten bucks.
- 5. Get a **dolly or rolling platform** to move heavy items.
- 6. **Cleaning products**, broom, Swiffer, and garbage and recycling bags
- 7. Get everything you need for **painting** if necessary.
- 8. **Pizza** and beer (but that's for later!)

○ STEP 4 - Packing and preparing the house

This is a **HUGE** step to reaching your final destination. Plan well in advance to make sure you leave enough time to complete packing properly and without undue stress.

- 1. **Clean and take pictures of your stuff to sell**. You can do this in minutes with Facebook Marketplace and Kijiji/Craigslist's apps. Do not underestimate that people **WILL** buy a twenty-year-old fridge that works! In the end, selling all that old furniture can add up! Just make sure you set the pickup date just prior to your moving date.
- 2. **Label your boxes**. This one is part of every moving check list and sounds like a given, but do not underestimate its importance.
- 3. **Take photos or videos of every complex electronic connection**, such as your stereo, TV and home computer. Do the same for your washing machine, dishwasher, and other appliances. It will avoid headaches and uncertainties when reconnecting them.
- 4. It is easy to misplace documents such as passports, optical records, insurance coverage etc when moving. Place everything at risk in the same box and **scan copies of important documents** if possible. You can do so easily for free with the Dropbox app (which can also help you store all your moving-related documents).

- 5. **Pack a bag** containing some clothes and toiletries so that they're easily accessible.
- 6. **Clean the house** for the new occupants; it's common courtesy.
- 7. **Empty your fridge** and disconnect it at least 24 hours before you move it. Cook food for moving day!

○ **STEP 5 - Update home services and advise all of address changes**

Moving is a great time to reevaluate your needs. Before transferring your current internet plan, have a look at what's available on the market. You may be surprised at how much you can save. The same is true for home insurance and security systems.

Yes, we might be biased! That said, MovingWaldo really is Canada's go-to moving app to set up home services, transfer insurance premium, update your address and get an idea of things you'll need to do.

- 1. Compare **internet, TV and home phone** offers and book installation in advance.
- 2. **Cancel your old account** if you switch provider. Schedule a time to return the TV box if you rent it.
- 3. Inform your **utility provider** of your move.
- 4. Get a few quotes for **home insurance**. You may want to bundle with your car insurance if you aren't already.
- 5. Price **security systems** and book an installation.
- 6. **Cancel your gym membership** or find a local branch.
- 7. **Inform any regular workers on your property**, such as the lawn mower, pool cleaner, etc., of your move.
- 8. Ask your **pharmacist** to send your prescriptions to your new local branch.
- 9. Update your address with your **magazine and subscription box providers**.
- 10. Update your address with your **rewards programs**.
- 11. **Inform your kid's school** of your move.
- 12. Tell your **dentist**, the **librarian** and your **pet shop**.
- 13. Inform your employer or the **HR department at work**. They'll adjust it on your file and work insurance. Do the same with your union rep.
- 14. Inform your **bank, credit cards** and investment brokers.
- 15. Change your address on your **driver's license, government insurance program**, ARC, CPP and such.

- 16. Have **Canada Post** forward your mail. If you don't buy the mail forwarding service from Canada Post, you don't have to inform the post office of your new address.

○ **STEP 6 - Do not forget when moving**

- 1. **Return movie rentals and books** to the library.
- 2. Get your **clothes from the dry cleaner**.
- 3. If you are a tenant, make arrangements to **leave the key with your landlord**.
- 4. Don't leave your curtains behind! The shower mat is also yours, **don't leave anything behind**.
- 5. **Have cash** on hand to tip the movers.
- 6. **Water bottles** and snacks for everyone on your crew.
- 7. The day before, **reserve a parking spot** for the truck at your current and new address.

○ **STEP 7 - Moving Day; it's time!**

- 1. **Start early**. It's best to allow time for unplanned events.
- 2. **Leave the key as planned** with your previous landlord. (See third point of step six of the moving checklist.)
- 3. **Tip the movers**.
- 4. **Don't get stressed!**

○ **STEP 8 - Setting up your new home**

- 1. **Do not postpone**, now is the best time to set up your curtains, paintings and furniture. The longer you wait, the less likely you are to do it.
- 2. If you plan on painting, don't unpack yet. **Paint first**.

○ **STEP 9 - Exploring the new neighbourhood**

Discover the ins and outs of your new neighbourhood. Go out and see for yourself now that you actually live there. If you like going out for dinner, make sure you try several restaurants before you start sticking to that same one that you like best — you miss everything you don't try!

One last thing: Introduce yourself to the neighbours. Go now!

