

Tips for Moving with Children:

- Talk to your children about the move as soon as you can. The more time they have to adjust to the idea, the more excited they will get and the easier the move will be.
- Ask them how they feel about the move and truly listen to what they have to say. Most children will have some feelings of anger and sadness. Express any of these feelings that you may have to reassure them that it is ok to feel this way and they aren't alone.
- If possible, take your children to the new home before you move in. Point out the positives of the new home that are different than your current home. Explore the area, parks and schools to familiarize them with their new surroundings.
- During the move be sure to stay positive and calm. Children are great observers and a bad mood could make them uneasy.
- Get your children involved in packing. If they are younger, have them pack their toys and stuffed animals. If they are older, have them pack their clothes and favorite possessions.
- Make sure to leave out a few of your children's favorite things such as a small toy, blanket, teddy bear, cd or book. This will give them something to play with when there is down time in the move.
- Help your children say goodbye to their friends in a fun upbeat way. Throw a pizza party or barbeque a few weekends before the move to celebrate their friendships. Buy them an address book ahead of time and have all the guests fill in their address and phone numbers.
- Be sure to pack all their medications in your travel bag.
- If it's going to be a long trip to your new home, make sure your children are in comfy traveling clothes. Pack anything that is part of their nightly routine in their travel bag so they have some normalcy while on the road.



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MOVING tips



8 Weeks prior to the Move:

- Choose a moving method. Are you going to movers or do it yourself? If you are going to hire movers, create a moving budget. Then call for estimates and compare companies.
- Familiarize yourself with the community you'll be moving into. Call the local Chamber of Commerce and have them send you maps and information.

7 Weeks prior to the Move:

- Start sorting out your possessions. Get rid of things you no longer need or use. Donate any items that do not need to move with you.
- If you are going to be storing items in a storage facility, now is a great time to research them and get price quotes.
- Book your moving truck/van. Price out various companies and ask if any have current specials.
- Book any travel arrangements needed if moving far away. Make sure you will arrive at your new house at least a few hours before the movers.

6 Weeks prior to the Move:

- Complete US Postal change of address forms.
- Obtain copies of medical, school, legal and veterinarian records. Notify your doctors and dentist of your move and request referrals. Make arrangements between new and old doctors to have records transferred.
- Moving expenses can often be tax deductible. Talk to your tax advisor to find out which ones qualify. Keep records of all your move-related expenses.
- Avoid buying items such as cleaning supplies that you will most likely leave behind and buy in your new community.
- Obtain a copy of your floor plan and begin to decide where your furniture will reside.

5 Weeks prior to the Move:

- Have a yard sale with the items you decided to leave behind. Anything not sold can be donated to charity and written off for taxes. This is a great way to get rid of your old stuff and make a

few bucks at the same time.

- Order new return address labels and checks.

4 Weeks prior to the Move:

- Repair and clean furniture and carpet.
- Take your car in for a tune-up.
- Pack all unnecessary items that you will not be using in the next month.
- Call your cable companies to let them know you'll be moving. Schedule them to install at your new home and give them the date to disconnect from your old one.
- Call utility companies and give them the dates of your move so they can shut off your billing.
- Cancel your gym membership if you won't be in the area to use it anymore.

3 Weeks prior to the Mover:

- Begin to clean out the fridge and freezer. Buy as little food as possible and eat up what you have.
- Get prescriptions filled and ask your pharmacist for a referral in your new area.
- Pay any unpaid tickets or taxes.
- Start calling and changing your address with utility companies, your employer, magazines and memberships.

2 Weeks prior to the Move:

- Inspect your new home. List any damages left by old tenants.
- Dispose your household wastes. Whether you have cleaning fluids, oil or lighter fluids you should contact your public works department for the nearest hazardous waste disposal location.
- Call your home insurance company and let them know you will be moving and need new coverage.
- Begin your serious packing by clearly labeling contents on the front of boxes and which room in your new house they go in. Print labels to save yourself the hassle of permanent markers.
- Return borrowed items such as books and movies.

1 week before the Move:

- If renting, write down your landlord's info. You might need it for future job/housing applications.
- Make arrangements for final trash and recycling

pickups.

- Stop by your dry cleaners to make sure you haven't left behind any of your clothes.
- Notify friends and family of new address.
- Mow your lawn. Then drain the gas and oil from your lawnmower and other machinery.
- Pack a suitcase for the move.

Week of the Move:

- Check on new home, clean carpet and appliances such as refrigerator.
- Buy plenty of snacks and drinks for moving day.
- Empty your safe deposit box.
- Verify delivery plans with your moving company or truck rental company.
- Make your first night in the new home fun. Don't worry about unpacking. Order in food and relax for the night.

Quick Tips for an Easier Move:

- Label boxes with which room they go in, which order they should be unpacked and what is inside.
- Label one or two boxes "essential" and pack with soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, prescription pills, snacks, etc. Take this box with you or pack it last.
- Save up newspapers a month in advance as they make great packing paper for anything fragile.
- If you want to save a few bucks, go to grocery and liquor stores and use their boxes for packing up your home... they're free!
- Pack plates and records vertically rather than placed flat on top of one another.
- Keep the weight of your boxes low... you will be lifting them all day long. Pack heavy items in smaller boxes, making them easier to carry.
- Towels, sheets and blankets are great to pack around and between breakable objects. Using them to pack will also spare you time in having to pack them separately.