

PLANNING A SMOOTH MOVE

After your purchase offer has been accepted and your loan approved, it is time to plan your move. By preplanning your move, you will find that the numerous tasks involved will go more smoothly. You will be prepared for the challenge of creating a new home for you and your family. The first step is selecting movers, the second is setting up a calendar.

When selecting a mover, always obtain a written estimate from each company you consider. Fees for local moves – 50 miles or less – are usually determined on an hourly rate. Long distance moves generally are priced by load weight and mileage and offer purchase protection at full value for each item being moved. After selecting a mover, arrange a specific moving date, and the following 30-day checklist to plan your schedule.

30 Days Before

- Determine what you do not want to move. Plan a garage sale if necessary.
- Decide what you are going to pack yourself and what the movers are going to pack. **Keep in mind that the mover is not responsible for any breakage of items that you personally pack**
- Obtain property-packing cartons from your mover for items you will pack personally.
- Notify the post office of your new address.
- Gather medical and dental records for all family members
- Notify schools and arrange to have transcripts and records forwarded to new schools

2 Weeks Before

- Start packing. Plan a little at a time. Don't try to do it all in a day or two.
- Return borrowed items and reclaim items borrowed from you.
- Arrange disconnect/connect dates with local utilities.
- Arrange for maid service and carpet cleaners.
- Develop a floor plan to show the movers where you want your belongings placed.

One Week Before

- Dispose of all flammable materials that shouldn't be moved.
- Dismantle outdoor play or gym equipment.
- Transfer bank accounts and contents of safe deposit box.
- Pack items you want to move yourself and mark "Do Not Move".

1 Day Before

- Empty your refrigerator and freezer. Let the appliances air out for 24 hours.
- Finish packing personal items.

Moving Day

- Strip beds, but leave fitted bottom sheet on the mattress.
- Be present to answer movers' questions.
- Accompany movers through the house for an inventory of things to be moved.
- Confirm a destination address, dates, and times with movers.
- Close all windows, turn out lights, and lock doors.