

2 Months Before

- Find a good packing list.
Moving out of home means losing access to all the little things that make life easier, so don't forget to stock up on the essentials.
- Start packing your first (small) box.
This box will not be packed or shipped with the others, but will stay with you throughout the move. It will contain your important documents — birth certificate, social security card, school
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This box will not be packed or shipped with the others, but will stay with you throughout the move. It will contain your important documents — passport, will, deed, etc. Begin gathering these documents early so you can identify any missing items. This box could also contain small valuables.
- Back up your files.
Before you pack your computer and its peripherals, make a backup of important files and family photos on a disk or flash drive that you can carry with you (maybe in that box mentioned above) during the move.
- Decide what to sell or donate.
Sell items online or through a garage sale.

1 Month Before

- Decide on a truck rental or moving company.
Get a written contract that includes your moving date and costs.
- Buy packing supplies.
Boxes, tape, packing paper, etc. Cover your bases with our list of packing essentials.
- Care for your car.
Take it into a trusted mechanic and ask what services might be needed for a long-distance drive or a move to a new climate. Contact your car insurance company to update the address on your policy.
- Make travel arrangements.
If necessary, book your flight, hotel, rental car, etc. If you're driving long-distance, plan your route and stops.
- Obtain copies of your medical records.
Also, make sure you will have enough required medication in case you don't locate a new pharmacist/doctor immediately.
- Contact your internet, TV, and utilities providers.
Set your disconnect date. Begin researching which providers you'll use at your destination and schedule connection of your services.

2 Weeks Before

- Change your address.
Head to the post office website. Be sure to have your mail forwarded from the old place to the new.
- Open a bank account.
If you already have one, be sure to update your address with the bank.
- Confirm dates with relevant parties:
 - Real estate agent(s)
 - Landlord for move-in/move-out.
 - Moving company or truck rental
 - Storage Unit
- Get in touch with your new roommates.
If you know who's moving into the new place with you, reach out to them. It will make move-in day a bit smoother, and since space will be at a premium, you can collaborate on what to pack so that you both don't bring the same game console.

1 Week Before

- Begin packing!
Schedule enough time to have the packing done at least 2 days before your move date.
- Clean your room.
In case your parents haven't already required this, be sure you leave home on a high note by cleaning your bedroom and bathroom like you've never done before.
- Pack a day bag.
Unpacking may take some time, and having the essentials for a day or two will help keep the move stress-free.

Moving Day

- Pick up the truck.
If you rented a moving truck for the occasion, pick it up as early as possible to allow for plenty of loading time.
- Load up and go!
If you've followed the checklist to this point, you should have a very simple (but busy!) moving day.

After Arrival

- Check your utilities.
Make sure everything is working properly.
- Take plenty of pictures.
If there is damage anywhere, these pictures will come in handy. This is vital if you're a renter.
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Make sure everything is working properly.
- Hit up the welcome festivities on campus.
If day one in your off-campus place is also day one of your college experience, be sure to take part in as many of the welcome activities as you can. It could be a chance to get to know some new people, or it could be a chance for you and your roommate to do your first thing together.