

MOVING MADE EASIER

Your ERA Foster & Bond REALTOR® *will let you know when the right time to start packing arrives.* Until then there is a lot you can do to get ready for your move.

1. Pick up a Change of Address kit from the USPS. Over the next few weeks, as you receive mail, immediately notify senders of your move and your new address. Record who you've notified in a secure location to avoid misdirected mail in the future.

You should also proactively notify people of your move and your new address. Organizations and people who may need your new address include:

- Accountant/tax preparer
- Alumni Associations
- Attorneys
- Babysitter/ Child Care Provider
- Banks (auto loans, checking & savings accounts, credit cards, safe deposit box)
- Cell Phone Provider
- Children's Friends
- Chiropractor
- City Services
- Courts, especially for traffic tickets or local disputes
- Credit Bureaus
- Credit Card Issuers
- Dentist
- Department of Motor Vehicles
- Doctors
- Dry Cleaner
- Family Members
- Health Club
- House Cleaning Service
- Insurance Providers (auto, health, life)
- IRS (form 8822)
- Lawn Care
- Magazine Subscriptions
- New Employer
- Newspaper Subscriptions
- Old Employer(s)
- Orthodontist
- Parent-Teacher Association
- Passport
- Pet Sitter, Walker, Day Care
- Pharmacy
- Physical Therapist
- Physician (BONUS: get referral for new location)
- Post Office!
- Professional Organizations
- Retirement Plan Holders
- Schools (BONUS: get copies of transcripts)
- Social Security Administration
- Swimming Pool Maintenance (pool cleaning, pool opening or closing)
- Swimming pool memberships
- Veterinarian (BONUS get vet records and recommendations)
- Water service

2. Take a look around the house and start to think about what you don't want to take with you. Hold a garage sale or donate your unwanted items to a local charity.
3. Prepare a list of all the large items you need to move: appliances, outside furniture, pianos, etc.
4. For Full-Service Moves:
 - a. get written estimates from several moving companies
 - b. review previous customers comments (on-line)
 - c. is the mover licensed, bonded, insured?
 - d. will the movers pack for you?
 - e. what items won't they move?
 - f. do they insure against damage during move?
 - g. have high-value items appraised in case of future claims
5. For Do-It-Yourself Moves:
 - a. make arrangements for a moving truck and a driver if you're uncomfortable driving a large vehicle
 - b. make arrangements for physical moving help (call your friends and offer pizza)

- c. buy boxes, tape, markers and packing paper (big box home improvement stores are best value)

If you followed your ERA Foster & Bond REALTOR's® advice, a lot of your personal effects are already packed up and sitting in a storage facility somewhere. Not only does it make your home show better to potential Buyers, but it also makes moving a lot easier!

READY, SET, MOVE

TWO - THREE Weeks Before Moving

1. Send "I'm/we're moving" announcements to friends and family. It can be a good idea to have an "Empty The Liquor Cabinet" party! You can give away plants, unused food items and unconsumed liquor to your friends.
2. Create a "valuables box" that's well labeled and easily accessible. This should contain all your vital documents and your most valuable personal items. Such things include:
 - Copies of All Keys
 - Passports
 - Military Records
 - Mortgage Records
 - Marriage License
 - Birth Certificates
 - Vehicle Titles
 - Insurance Papers
 - Stock Certificates
 - Bank Records
 - School Records
 - Medical Records
 - Vet Records
 - Tax records
 - Photo Albums
 - Jewelry
 - Personal Address Book
 - Cash for Emergency
3. Make arrangements for cleaning both the home you're leaving and your new place.
4. Inquire about your new state's auto licensing procedure and insurance laws.
5. Check with your insurance company about transferring coverage(s).
6. Arrange for a babysitter to watch the kids at their home on moving day.

ONE Week Before Moving

1. Dispose of any flammable items. They cannot be loaded onto a moving truck.
2. Refill prescriptions: stock up on prescriptions you'll need during the next few weeks.
3. Plan what goes into the car with you:
 - a. Toys and games for the kids
 - b. Snacks and water (don't forget the pets!)
 - c. Important Documents and Records Box
 - d. Toilet Paper
 - e. First Aid Kit
4. Arrange for moving insurance if using a moving company or if traveling long distance.
5. Have your car tuned up and have your tires checked.
6. Pack your suitcases: aim to finish your general packing a few days before moving day. Then, pack suitcases for everyone with enough clothes for a few days.

7. Arrange for Utility Transfers:
 - a. Cable / satellite TV
 - b. Electricity
 - c. Internet
 - d. Security System
 - e. Recycling / Garbage Collection
 - f. Water / Sewer
 - g. Cell Phone
 - h. Natural Gas

8. Arrange for picking up important records:
 - a. Doctor
 - b. Dentist
 - c. Legal
 - d. Optometrist
 - e. School
 - f. Veterinarian

9. Close Bank Accounts:
 - a. confirm balances
 - b. clean out safety deposit box
 - c. order new checks for new account



It is a good idea to turn OFF services one day AFTER your closing and to turn ON services one day BEFORE your closing (or on the day of closing if necessary for establishing service. Better to pay a day or two extra than to not have water!

The Day Before The Move

1. Pick up items at storage facility and have them at your house for movers
2. Defrost and clean out the refrigerator
3. Clean the stove
4. Confirm the moving company/your friends are ready for the next day
5. Confirm the cleaning crew is ready for the next day
6. Confirm baby-sitter/child care is ready for the next day
7. Get a simple breakfast ready for the next morning
8. Pick up ice and beverages for moving day - avoid drinking alcohol until the end of the moving day
9. Get a good night's sleep!

Moving Day!

1. Get up earlier than usual and spend a few moments relaxing
2. Move your "valuables box" to a secure location and pack your car first
3. Show movers around and make certain they understand what is being moved
4. Make sure the moving truck driver has the correct new address, phone number and directions. Confirm the delivery date with the driver.

A Few Last Ideas To Make Moving Easier

1. Order new personal business cards a few weeks before your move
2. Change your luggage tags to your new address
3. Drink lots of water the day of the move
4. DO NOT post your move on any social media site – wait until move is completed
5. Many local charities will come to your home and pick up items you wish to donate
6. Kids (of all ages) can be emotional about moving. Pay attention to them and make sure they're involved in the moving process. Decorating their boxes is a great way to personalize a move for a child
7. *PLEASE do not leave pets behind.* If you're faced with having to leave a pet, let your ERA Foster & Bond REALTOR® know and we'll make sure to find your pet a new home too.



Make sure you let your ERA Foster & Bond REALTOR® know if you have any questions about your move or need additional help with finding service providers.