



Preparing For The Move

Now the task of preparing for the “big move” is upon you. THE KIPER TEAM suggests that you begin preparing for your move while you are house hunting and during the closing process. This way when you do have a definite date for the move you are completely ready!

The next few pages contain tips and checklists so that your move is as organized and effortless as possible. Think about your move as a series of small projects that you can begin while your home is under contract. Your move will progress as your contract and closing progress. That way, when the day comes when you have to physically move your belongings most of the other details will be taken care of.

During the house hunting process, when you are fairly sure you will be moving somewhere soon, you can start preparing for the move:

R Determine your moving needs, including:

- Movers or a van (donate items you will not take with you in the move prior to obtaining an estimate)
- Boxes (include a variety of sizes and divided containers for glassware)
- Packing paper, tape and markers to identify boxes
- Consider moving special breakables yourself, if possible
- Have paper towel, bathroom tissue, plastic cups and other necessities available for use on moving day
- Measure doors, hallways and stairways prior to moving day to be sure they will accommodate your possessions
- Save your receipts - you may be able to deduct some moving expenses

R Visit your local Post Office to get a Change of Address package for moving.

R Create your change of address notification list, including:

- The post office
- Employers
- Friends and Family
- Doctor and dentist offices
- Benefit providers
- Magazine and mail order subscriptions
- Auto and home insurance
- Driver 's bureau to receive tag renewal notice
- Charge accounts, insurance carriers and creditor
- Voter Registration officials
- Club, social or civic organizations with mailings



When your closing has been set you can get a little more serious about moving.

- R Pack a copy of the local telephone directory for future reference.
- R Clean rugs or clothing before moving and request to have them wrapped for moving.
- R Service all appliances, computers, etc., for moving and pack them in the manufacturer's packaging. If you do not have the original packaging use bubble wrap or foam to secure the items.
- R Start reducing the number of things in your home that you really don't need or that won't go well in your new home. Most communities have charitable organizations that will pick up clothing, dishes, books, and other household items and furniture.
- R Start carefully packing items you don't use daily (good china, out-of-season clothing, holiday decorations, etc.) Pack breakable items with linens you are not currently using
- R Prepare your home for your move by securing carpet cleaning services and a cleaning company to give your previous home a final cleaning after you move out.
- R Secure all birth and baptismal records for all family members.
- R Obtain medical, dental and other records for all family members.
- R Refill prescriptions and transfer prescriptions to a pharmacy in your new area.
- R Ask your doctor and dentist for referrals in your new area.

R Check with your attorney to see if you must have your will rewritten when moving across state lines.

R Notify your church and social clubs of your move

R Ask your bank about electronically transferring your funds to a bank in your new area. Discuss branch options and arrange for check cashing in your new location.

R Close out your safety deposit box.

R Obtain traveler's checks for traveling funds and for funds while you are settling into your new location.

R Ask your insurance agent to transfer coverage to your new home. Make sure all coverage (life, health, automobile, personal belongings, etc.) is in force while you are en route.

R Begin depleting your store of canned and frozen foods. Defrost your freezer and use charcoal to dispel odors.



What to do 3 to 5 days before closing

R Make arrangements for canceling home utilities such as the following. Advise them of your desired date of shut-off and give change of address for final billing. Request deposit return, if appropriate. Then arrange for immediate service to your new address:

- Electric and gas
- Telephone
- Cable television
- Water
- Trash
- Sewer

R Make arrangements for canceling home deliveries and services such as the following. Arrange for service at your new address.

- Newspaper
- Cleaning service
- Laundry/Diaper service
- Yard/Mowing service

R Final walk though of your new home with The Kiper Team.

R Be sure that your Hazard (Homeowner's) Insurance Policy is in force for your new property.

Don't forget the needs of your furry friends!

Do not transport your pets much farther than they have safely traveled in the past without consulting your veterinarian. To transport animals by air, you need an airline-approved animal carrier. A moving company can inform you of any state regulations for pet entry, vaccination or quarantine procedures. Ask about regulations, licenses, tags, etc. for pets. Also, do not forget to obtain a copy of your pet's medical records.



Kids Move Too!



Moving is well known to be a traumatic experience. Families leave memories, friends, relations and activities. And while most of these can be replaced by new friends, memories, and activities, the move becomes less traumatic.

Often times the concerns and fears of the children are overlooked when the families move to a new location. A move is especially hard on teenagers or youngsters who have a passion for a sporting activity, social club involvement or who participate in one of the various art forms. Teenagers and young adults are asked to leave their budding romances, their high school and college activities and to some extent abandon their personal dreams and ambitions.

It is paramount to include the children in the initial planning stage of a family relocation. Remember, kids move too and they often times require very special attention during this traumatic time of their lives.

Keep detailed records - some moving expenses are tax deductible!

Keep detailed records of all moving expenses if your move is job related. Many expenses, including house-hunting trips, are tax deductible. If your move is 35 miles or more from your home, you can deduct your family's travel expenses, including meals and lodging; the cost of transporting furniture, other household goods and personal belongings; food and hotel bills for up to 30 days in the new city if you have to wait to move into your new home; and the costs associated with selling your old home or settling a lease, plus the costs of buying or leasing your new home.

Note: There is a ceiling on deductions which is outlined in detail in the Internal Revenue Service's Publication 521, "Tax Information on Moving Expenses," available free from IRS offices.