



PACKING UP AND MOVING IN

Selling a home and moving can be stressful, so we've put together this checklist to help. From cleaning out the closets, to packing up and moving into your new place, here are some suggestions to make it all go as smoothly as possible.

AT CLOSING

Make sure your new home has an American Home Shield® home warranty to protect your budget from unexpected, repair bills for covered components of plumbing, electrical, heating, air conditioning and appliances.

1 MONTH BEFORE MOVE

- Hire a mover
- Purchase boxes, tape, and other important moving necessities
- Notify utility companies of the date for final meter reading
- Notify employers, schools, banks, doctors, etc. of your move and begin obtaining important documents
- Begin cleaning out closets, attics, and the garage
- Analyze what items can be thrown away or donated

2 WEEKS BEFORE MOVE

- Submit a postal change of address form online
- Empty the fuel from your lawnmower, power tools, etc.
- Notify your internet, cable TV, security, pest control, cleaning, lawn maintenance, and any other services you receive
- Create a room-by-room packing calendar to track your progress
- Assemble a folder of important information about the home for the next homeowner
- Make sure all necessary repairs are complete

1-5 DAYS BEFORE MOVING

- Defrost the freezer and empty the ice maker and ice cube trays
- Clean the refrigerator, stovetop, and oven
- Disconnect and drain all appliances that are moving with you
- Have payment for movers ready
- Confirm travel arrangements
- Confirm arrival time of movers/pickup time of rental truck
- Gather and clean outdoor furniture
- Return cable box, cable modem, and DSL modem, if necessary
- Pack suitcase of each family member with clothes and toiletries to get through the first three days
- Use towels, t-shirts, and pillows for padding around breakables to save space
- Back up all computers

MOVING DAY

- Double-check that your cupboards, closets, dishwasher, and other appliances are empty
- Give movers a tour and any specific instructions on what to move or not move
- Take note of utility meter readings
- Take a final walkthrough of the home to make sure no items are left behind
- Leave a note with your new address in the house so that future residents can forward any remaining mail

IN YOUR NEW HOME

- Make sure rooms and surfaces are clean, and everything is working properly
- Take note of the new home's utility meter readings
- Check around the property to ensure that the previous owners did not leave anything behind
- Unpack and begin organizing your new home
- Confirm your new address with employers, schools, banks, doctors, etc.
- CELEBRATE

IN YOUR NEW HOME

QUICK CLEAN FOR YOUR NEW HOME

- ❑ Use vinegar to clean mineral deposits off the heating element of your dishwasher
- ❑ Clean oven, stovetop, and microwave
- ❑ Clean your disposal by dropping a dozen ice cubes in and turning it on while running cold water. Follow up by doing the same with a lemon for freshness.
- ❑ Check your water heater and drain pan for leaks and corrosion
- ❑ Check heating and air conditioning filters every month
- ❑ Clean the dryer lint screen
- ❑ Clean the coils on the back of or underneath your refrigerator with a vacuum
- ❑ Inspect hot and cold water supply hoses for cracks and deterioration

KEEP BUGS AWAY

- ❑ Seal cracks and holes around the exterior of the home to prevent ants and other pests from entering
- ❑ Check attic and crawl space for evidence of rodents and seal off potential entrances
- ❑ Eliminate excess moisture by fixing any leaks and areas of standing water in your yard
- ❑ Vacuuming regularly rids the home of crumbs that may attract pests, as well as removing eggs that insects may have laid inside
- ❑ Make sure all doors and windows are properly sealed with tight-fitting screens and weather stripping

BOOST YOUR CURB APPEAL

- ❑ Maintain landscaping by keeping your lawn edged and mowed, pruning and trimming trees and shrubs, and replacing dead or diseased plants
- ❑ Clean and cover flower beds and gardens with 1-4 inches of mulch to conserve moisture, reduce weed growth, and maintain uniform temperature
- ❑ Plant bright-colored seasonal flowers to enhance the beauty of your home
- ❑ Repaint or re-stain front door, trim, fences, and shutters
- ❑ Pressure wash dirty decks, walkways, and siding
- ❑ Replace old light fixtures and add landscape lighting to create a chic, casual ambiance
- ❑ Add new modernized house numbers that are easy to spot from the street
- ❑ Repaint outdoor furniture and add new, fun pillows and cushions
- ❑ Hide or disguise garbage bins and air conditioning units
- ❑ Spruce up the mailbox with a fresh coat of paint and a small mulched garden around the base

THE FINISHING TOUCHES

- ❑ Use higher watt light bulbs to brighten rooms
- ❑ Arrange furniture to make rooms appear larger and sell or store extra furniture
- ❑ Repaint or reface kitchen and bathroom cabinets
- ❑ Restore or repair damaged furniture and upholstery
- ❑ Repair and refinish damaged doors, molding, and paneling
- ❑ Deodorize the entire home to remove any unpleasant odors
- ❑ To avoid clutter, sell or donate unwanted items
- ❑ Use mirrors and the home's natural light to create a more spacious environment
- ❑ Sit back, relax, and enjoy your new home



Contact American Home Shield today.

 Call **800.776.4663**

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