

Moving house checklist (UK)

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8+ weeks before

- ☐ Confirm your likely completion date with your solicitor or conveyancer
- ☐ If renting, check your notice period and plan when to serve notice
- ☐ Get at least 3 removals quotes (or plan a van hire for a DIY move)
- ☐ Start decluttering: sell, donate or bin what you will not take
- ☐ If moving area with children, contact the new local authority about school places
- ☐ Start a change-of-address list (every account, subscription and service you use)
- ☐ Gather important documents in one folder (ID, mortgage offer, insurance, warranties)

6 weeks before

- ☐ Book your removals firm (confirm insurance cover and what they will not move)
- ☐ Arrange buildings insurance so cover can start from exchange of contracts (for a purchase)
- ☐ Order packing materials (boxes, tape, bubble wrap, marker pens)
- ☐ Plan the Royal Mail post redirection: it can be set up in advance, apply early
- ☐ Check broadband availability at the new address and compare providers (installation can take weeks)
- ☐ Use up freezer food and open jars

4 weeks before

- ☐ Tell your gas, electricity and water suppliers you are moving
- ☐ Tell your CURRENT council (council tax) your moving date
- ☐ Tell your NEW council you are moving in (council tax registration)
- ☐ Book time off work for moving day (and ideally the day after)
- ☐ Arrange childcare or pet care for moving day
- ☐ Book a broadband installation date at the new home
- ☐ Start packing rooms you rarely use, label every box with room + contents

2 weeks before

- ☐ Confirm the removals booking, arrival time and parking at both ends
- ☐ Confirm the completion date and key arrangements with your solicitor
- ☐ Activate the Royal Mail redirection from your moving date
- ☐ Update your address with your bank, credit cards, pension and insurers
- ☐ Update your driving licence and vehicle log book (V5C) address with the DVLA
- ☐ Update your TV Licence to the new address
- ☐ Register on the electoral roll at the new address (also helps your credit file)
- ☐ Tell your GP and dentist; register with new ones if moving area
- ☐ Update HMRC, DWP or child benefit records if they apply to you
- ☐ Tell your employer, and update any subscriptions and deliveries

1 week before

- ☐ Pack an essentials box (kettle, mugs, tea, toilet roll, chargers, tools, bulbs, first-aid, snacks)
- ☐ Pack a documents bag to keep with you (ID, keys, mortgage and insurance papers, cash)
- ☐ Defrost and dry the freezer
- ☐ Dismantle furniture that will not fit through doors
- ☐ Confirm where and when you collect the new keys
- ☐ Charge phones and power banks; keep parking permits or cash handy for the crew

Moving day

- ☐ Take meter readings (gas, electricity, water) at the OLD home, with photos
- ☐ Take meter readings at the NEW home the moment you get in, with photos
- ☐ Do a final walk-through of the old home: every cupboard, loft, garden, shed
- ☐ Leave keys, alarm codes, appliance manuals and any agreed items for the buyer
- ☐ Check the removals inventory before the van leaves
- ☐ Locate the stopcock, fuse box and boiler at the new home

After you move in

- ☐ Send both sets of meter readings to your energy and water suppliers
 - ☐ Confirm council tax is set up at the new address
 - ☐ Confirm your post redirection is working
 - ☐ Confirm the electoral roll registration went through
 - ☐ Test smoke and carbon monoxide alarms; fit new ones if missing
 - ☐ Check buildings and contents insurance are both live at the new address
 - ☐ Register with a local GP and dentist if you have not already
 - ☐ Update your address anywhere left on your change-of-address list
 - ☐ Keep completion paperwork and meter photos somewhere safe
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The admin most lists miss: post redirection, council tax (both councils), the electoral roll, meter readings with photos, and the TV Licence. Tick them off and the boring problems never happen.

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