

# WEEKS OUT

Research moving companies in the area.

If you're moving to a new area, research doctors, schools and banks.

Set up new customer profiles, school enrollments and accounts.

Call your internet, TV and utility providers to set up services in your new home.

Create a list of businesses that you'll need to contact to change your address.

Make arrangements to forward your mail to your new home.

Organize all of your forms and moving-related documents in one master binder.

Request time off from work during the week of your move and ask a nanny, your family or your friends to watch the kids.

# WEEKS OUT

Decide on a moving company and consider getting extra coverage.

Assess your belongings room by room, and decide what to keep and what to give away.

Donate unwanted items to your local charity, sell them online or host a garage sale.

Collect boxes, tape and any other equipment that you need. You can also rent reusable boxes instead.

Begin packing items that you know you want to keep, but don't use as frequently.

If needed, reserve a storage unit to house your belongings.

# WEEKS OUT

Refrain from stocking up on groceries for the next few weeks and use what's in your freezer, refrigerator and pantry instead.

Make a packing schedule for yourself so that you know what needs to be completed each day.

Establish a box-labeling system so that there's no issue identifying which boxes are housing what.

Create a master list with an inventory of what's been boxed.

Pack family heirlooms or expensive jewelry separate from what you'll be loading into the truck. Transport these items by hand or via a trackable shipping service.

## TWO PRO-PACKING TIPS:

1. The heavier the item, the smaller the box.
2. If boxes aren't full, stuff them with paper. Boxes that aren't filled aren't stackable and allow items to move around.

# WEEKS OUT

Confirm that your address has been changed, and that new accounts and services have been set up.

Schedule utilities to be turned off in your current home one day after you move out.

Make sure that each member of the household packs a suitcase with their necessities (2 weeks' worth of clothes, toiletries, medications, electronics, etc.)

Dispose of flammable items like chemicals, paint and aerosol cans.

Clean out your fridge and kitchen cabinets. Donate perishables or box them up. Everything else needs to be placed in a cooler or thrown out.

Confirm moving dates and times with anyone that you've booked services with.

Group together keys, garage door openers and remotes for the new owners of your home. If further instruction is required, put it in writing and leave them a note.

Give your home a clean before its new residents arrive and take photos of empty rooms.

# MOVING

## WITH PETS

Walk your pet around the neighbourhood a few times before moving in.

Once you and your pet move into your new home, unpack their toys.

Keep to routine as much as possible — make sure that they're going to the bathroom, eating, walking and sleeping at the same time that they're used to.

If there's another pet that they've been used to seeing, bring them over as much as possible.

Overall, be patient and give them some extra attention and love — just like this move is new for you, it's an adjustment for them too.

# MOVING

## WITH KIDS

Explain why you're packing and what's to come, as well as that their items and belongings will only be packed for a short period of time.

Take advantage of the time you have away from your children — pack during nap time, play dates, or when they're being watched by grandparents.

If your kids are in school, schedule your move while they're in class or at daycare.

Pack essential belongings last and separate from other items (Ex. toiletries, chargers, medication, children's favorite toys.)

Set your children's rooms up with their bedding, toys and favorite belongings prior to them spending their first night in the new house.

When you move into your new home, explain where your bedroom is located so that your kids feel comfortable coming to you in the middle of the night if they need to.

Upon arriving at your new home, mark the celebratory occasion with a cake or with a little present for your kids.