

6 - 8 WEEKS BEFORE YOU MOVE

Decide whether you'll do the move yourself or if you want to hire professional help. Research moving companies if you plan to hire professionals. Look at reviews and ask friends for references. Compare prices.

Inform the proper parties of your move (ie. your child's school, doctors, employers, insurances and groups you belong to, etc).

Research new professionals and other services if you have to change.

Call your insurance broker to transfer or purchase Renter's Insurance for your next place.

Start accumulating packing supplies like boxes and packing tape.

Request time off from work for the move, preferably at the end of the week.

Research your new community for points of interest. You're going to want to know where you have to go for groceries.

4 - 5 WEEKS PRIOR

Start sorting through your stuff. You don't have to pack it all yet but begin purging things you don't need.

Go to ICBC's website to fill out the change of address form online.

Schedule cancelation or transfer of your utilities, including gas, electricity and Internet or cable service.

Change your address with your bank and move accounts if necessary.

Start using perishable items you don't plan to move, such as food.

Have a yard sale if your landlord allows it.

2 - 3 WEEKS PRIOR

Pack all nonessentials.

See what cleaning is required in your lease and schedule a cleaning day.

In addition to the cleaning, schedule a day to make any repairs your apartment needs like holes in walls and painting touch ups.

Change your address anywhere that you get packages from on a regular basis like Amazon and anywhere else you frequently order from.

Use up all your food to save the trouble of packing up the contents of your fridge.

Have one last party with friends and family in the area. Your place is still mostly intact, and you might not have the chance to later in the chaos of the move.

1 WEEK PRIOR

Finish packing - make sure you label each box.

Create an inventory of all the boxes you have. You might even number them. This will help you ensure you have everything after you move.

Pack one essentials box that has everything you need for your first night in your new place.

Make a “cleaning supplies” box as scrubbing your old place is likely the last thing you’ll do before you return your keys.

Confirm the installation date of new utilities, such as Internet, gas and electricity.

Confirm details of moving day with your moving company or your helpers.

Clean the home to the required specifications.

Schedule and complete a walk-through of the home with your landlord. Skipping this step forfeits your ability to argue with any security-deposit decisions your landlord makes.

MOVING DAY AT YOUR OLD PLACE

Finish packing- check every nook and cranny to be sure you didn’t leave something behind.

Take out the trash and complete any other last minute cleaning tasks.

Pick up your moving truck (if you're moving yourself) and inspect the vehicle.

Pack your vehicle carefully.

Turn off all the lights and return your keys to the designated spot.

MOVING DAY AT YOUR NEW PLACE

Walk through with your new landlord before you start moving your boxes. Take photos and detailed notes. This is important when it comes time to get your security deposit back. Also have them show you where important things, such as utility hookups, electrical panels and water shutoffs are located.

If you have time, clean the new apartment before you put boxes down.

Start moving in boxes. Place each box in the correct room, based on the labels you wrote while packing

Take inventory of your belongings to ensure all the boxes are there and nothing is damaged (This is more important if you're working with professional movers).

Return the rental truck you used.

Unpack your priority box first, then get to work on anything else you have the time and energy to do.