

MOVING TIPS "THE MOVE"

Canadian Relocation

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Week of Move:

Clean Appliances

Before filling your new fridge with fresh food, be sure to empty, defrost, and clean it.

Clean Home

Leave your old home as clean as you would like to find your new home.

Inspect Old Home Landlord

Do a final inspection with your current landlord before you move out. Be sure to discuss any damages that may be deducted from your security deposit. Note that it's better to negotiate in person rather than over the phone.

Lawn Care

As an added gesture to the new tenants, mow your lawn before you leave. The new owners will be grateful.

Maps for Movers

Don't forget to give driving directions to your movers!

Move Day Etiquette

On moving day, be considerate of neighbors. Don't block driveways/sidewalks and don't leave trash and unwanted furniture behind.

Move Planning

Review the floor plan with your movers before they start unpacking your items from the truck. It's best to have someone available to direct them where to place boxes and furniture.

Mover Payment

Movers typically don't accept personal checks. Have cash, credit cards, or a bank check on hand for payment. If you're satisfied with the way the movers handled your possessions, it's customary to tip them \$20 each, more or less depending on the difficulty of the move.

Mover Snacks

Have plenty of snacks and refreshments available for movers, friends, and family throughout the entire move day.

Pack Move Day Items

Prepare a special box marked "Move Day". In it have the following: a telephone, lightbulbs, a tool kit, scissors, a flashlight, large trash bags, paper towels, toilet paper, and linens to make your bed.

Packing Materials

Be sure to have tape, twine, padding, and spare boxes available on moving day. It's also advisable to have a basic tool kit handy to disassemble bulky items.

Pet Food

If traveling a long-distance with your pet, be sure to pack plenty of extra food. The packable food and water bowls work really well.

Pet Litter

If you have a cat, choose a permanent place for her litter box and put it there the day you move into your new place. This will help instill good habits.

Pet Protection

Confine your pets to a separate room on move day. This avoids attempted run-aways.

Photo Opportunity

Take a photo of the family in front of your old house before you move. You'll cherish the memories it brings. Also, it's fun to take a photo in front of the new house when you arrive!

Truck Borrowing

If you are borrowing a truck from a family member or friend, be sure to reimburse them for gas. Use \$0.25 a kilometer as your standard.

Moving Company Bill

Don't let your movers leave until you've checked their inventory list. If an item is missing or if damage occurred somewhere along the way, make a note on the billing manifest before you sign it.

Post Move:

Utility Connection

Contact utility companies and sign-up for new service. Service should begin the day BEFORE you move. These days you can even connect service on the Internet.

1 Week Post-Move

Children's Activities

Now that you're settled in, get your kids involved in their new community. Sign them up for extra-curricular activities that they enjoy such as soccer, piano lessons, or volunteering. These types of activities will help kids ease into their new surroundings.

Children's Library

Visit the children's area of your local library. There may be a "reading hour" your children can participate in. This is a great way for your kids to meet other children in the neighborhood.

Safety

Locate the police station, fire station, and nearest hospital. Install a new smoke alarm, fire extinguisher, and carbon monoxide monitor. You should also map out a safe escape route in case of fire.

Security Deposit

Have you received your security deposit back from your landlord yet? If not, it might be smart to make a call to your landlord to ensure its arrival at your new address.

Thank Friends

As a nice touch, send thank-you cards to everyone who helped you move. You might want to include a gift certificate to their favorite store or restaurant.

Window Fixtures

One of the quickest ways to spruce up a new home is with window fixtures. Swing by your favorite decorating store and pick-up some blinds and/or curtains.

2 Weeks Post-Move

Fencing

If your new yard does not have fencing, consider purchasing temporary fencing for your pet. He will want to venture outside once you've arrived!

Home Security

You should have received all sets of keys to your new home. If you have any doubts, change the lock on the outside door. You can also install a second lock, such as a dead-bolt, if it makes you feel more secure.

Pet License

If you moved to a different town or Province, call your new vet about receiving a pet license.

Recycling

Make an effort to recycle in your new home! Call City Hall for information about recycling in your community.

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