THE ESSENTIAL

MOVING CHECKLIST

A complete step-by-step plan for sellers

From planning your move to handing over the keys.

PLAN & BOOK • PACK & PREPARE • MOVE & CLOSE



PRINTABLE • CHECK-OFF FORMAT • SELLER CLOSING TIPS

Driftwood
REALTY GROUP

PERSONALIZED SOLUTIONS. **PROVEN** RESULTS.

Start Early, Move Easier

Use the timeline as a guide. If your closing is sooner, begin with the most urgent tasks.

8–6 WEEKS BEFORE

- [ ] Set a realistic moving budget, including packing, transport, storage, travel, and contingency funds.
- [ ] Choose your target move-out date; confirm the contract's possession terms before booking.
- [ ] Get at least three written moving estimates and compare services and coverage.
- [ ] For interstate movers, verify registration and U.S. DOT number with FMCSA.
- [ ] Create a moving folder for contracts, estimates, receipts, inventory, and closing details.
- [ ] Start decluttering room by room: keep, donate, sell, recycle, or discard.
- [ ] Photograph valuable belongings and make a basic household inventory.
- [ ] Measure large furniture, doorways, stairways, and the new home's spaces.

6–4 WEEKS BEFORE

- [ ] Book movers or reserve a truck and confirm the arrangement in writing.
- [ ] Ask about insurance/valuation coverage, exclusions, cancellation terms, and delivery windows.
- [ ] Reserve storage, elevator access, parking, or loading space if needed.
- [ ] Collect boxes, tape, labels, padding, and mattress protection.
- [ ] Arrange transfer of school, medical, dental, and veterinary records if applicable.
- [ ] Start using frozen food, pantry items, and household supplies you will not move.
- [ ] Schedule donation pickups, junk removal, or specialty-item movers.
- [ ] Pack seasonal décor, books, guest rooms, and rarely used items.
- [ ] Keep your home presentable while any contract contingencies remain unresolved.

SELLER NOTE

A closing date can change. Avoid nonrefundable moving commitments until you understand the contract and the remaining contingencies.

Make the Arrangements

Address changes, service transfers, and packing systems are easier before moving week.

4–3 WEEKS BEFORE

- [ ] Confirm mover date, pickup address, delivery address, access restrictions, and arrival window.
- [ ] Submit USPS mail forwarding at the official USPS website; update key senders directly.
- [ ] Notify banks, credit cards, employer, insurers, subscriptions, and recurring deliveries.
- [ ] Schedule new-home electricity, water, gas, internet, and trash service as appropriate.
- [ ] Discuss old-home utility transfer/disconnection timing with Driftwood; keep services active for the buyer's walk-through.
- [ ] Arrange pet care, childcare, or travel accommodations if needed.
- [ ] Transfer prescriptions and identify pharmacies and healthcare providers near the new home.
- [ ] Check HOA or condo move rules, gate access, elevator reservations, and truck restrictions.

2 WEEKS BEFORE

- [ ] Pack nonessential rooms; label boxes with destination room and brief contents.
- [ ] Number boxes and keep a simple inventory or photo list.
- [ ] Separate important documents, medications, jewelry, and valuables for personal transport.
- [ ] Confirm cleaning service, carpet care, and disposal arrangements.
- [ ] Plan for fragile items, electronics, plants, and items movers will not transport.
- [ ] Back up computers and important digital files.
- [ ] Check the moving company's payment method and required documents.
- [ ] Plan meals around remaining refrigerator and freezer food.
- [ ] Begin gathering manuals, spare keys, remotes, and access devices for the buyers.

IMPORTANT

Mail forwarding does not update every account. Change your address directly with financial, insurance, licensing, healthcare, and subscription providers.

The Final Week

Keep your essentials close and prepare the property for its next owners.

7–3 DAYS BEFORE

- [ ] Confirm movers, truck parking, building access, and arrival time.
- [ ] Pack a first-night bag: clothing, toiletries, chargers, medications, towels, bedding, and basic kitchen items.
- [ ] Set aside passports, identification, closing paperwork, cash, jewelry, and irreplaceable items.
- [ ] Refill prescriptions and prepare pet food, leashes, carriers, and supplies.
- [ ] Photograph electronic connections before disconnecting equipment.
- [ ] Arrange appliance servicing or disconnection only where appropriate and permitted.
- [ ] Confirm the buyer's final walk-through timing with Driftwood.
- [ ] Complete any agreed-upon repairs and retain receipts or warranties.
- [ ] Check your contract before removing fixtures, appliances, window treatments, or attached items.

48–24 HOURS BEFORE

- [ ] Finish packing and keep the essentials bag out of the moving truck.
- [ ] Empty and clean the refrigerator/freezer as appropriate; follow manufacturer guidance.
- [ ] Remove unwanted belongings, chemicals, trash, and debris from every area.
- [ ] Sweep or clean the home to the condition required by your contract.
- [ ] Check attic, garage, shed, closets, cabinets, under-stove drawer, and above-fridge cabinets.
- [ ] Inspect floors and walls as furniture and rugs are removed; report unexpected damage promptly.
- [ ] Ensure utilities and installed systems remain operational for the final walk-through.
- [ ] Gather house and mailbox keys, garage remotes, gate devices, and any included equipment.
- [ ] Coordinate access codes securely with Driftwood near the transfer of possession.

FINAL WALK-THROUGH

The buyer may verify the home's condition and that agreed items remain. If something unexpected happens during move-out, contact us before the walk-through.

Moving day & Handoff

The last details matter. Keep the house secure and the handoff coordinated.

MOVING DAY

- [ ] Be available to answer mover questions and supervise loading.
- [ ] Review inventory, bill of lading, delivery details, and payment terms before signing.
- [ ] Protect floors, doorways, walls, and landscaping while moving furniture.
- [ ] Keep identification, documents, valuables, medications, and essentials with you.
- [ ] Record or photograph the condition of belongings and any moving damage.
- [ ] Walk through every room after the truck is loaded.
- [ ] Check drawers, cabinets, attic, garage, storage, shed, and outdoor areas.
- [ ] Remove all trash and items not included in the sale.
- [ ] Close windows, secure doors, and follow the agreed key-handoff instructions.

SELLER CLOSING HANDOFF

- [ ] Confirm the agreed possession date and time with Driftwood.
- [ ] Leave included appliances, fixtures, remotes, storm protection, and other contract items in place.
- [ ] Collect all keys, mailbox keys, garage openers, and gate/HOA access devices.
- [ ] Provide appliance manuals, warranties, and helpful maintenance information if available.
- [ ] Complete the New Homeowner Information Sheet for utilities, trash service, and useful property details.
- [ ] Share access codes through a secure method at the appropriate time.
- [ ] Keep utilities active through the agreed closing/possession arrangements.
- [ ] Confirm title-company instructions, identification, signing arrangements, and proceeds details.
- [ ] Never rely on emailed wiring changes; verify instructions by calling a known trusted number.

DON'T FORGET

The purchase contract controls which items stay, property condition, closing and possession. Ask us before removing anything you are unsure about.

Settle into your next chapter

FIRST 24–72 HOURS

- [ ] Confirm utilities, internet, and essential services work at the new home.
- [ ] Check smoke/CO alarms, door locks, garage access, and security systems.
- [ ] Locate the main water shutoff, breaker panel, and emergency contacts.
- [ ] Unpack medications, bedding, toiletries, and essential kitchen supplies.
- [ ] Inspect delivered items for damage or missing boxes; document concerns promptly.
- [ ] Secure pets and help children adjust to the new space.
- [ ] Keep mover receipts, inventories, and claim instructions until resolved.

FIRST 1–2 WEEKS

- [ ] Finish updating addresses with government agencies and important providers.
- [ ] Update driver's license, vehicle registration, and voter registration as applicable.
- [ ] Review insurance coverage and update home/auto policies for the new address.
- [ ] Register for trash/recycling, HOA portals, gate access, and local services.
- [ ] Find nearby healthcare, pharmacy, veterinarian, and emergency services.
- [ ] Schedule any needed maintenance or service appointments.
- [ ] Unpack room by room and recycle or donate usable packing materials.

A thoughtful move is more than packing boxes.

We're here to help with the transition from your current home to what comes next.

HELPFUL OFFICIAL RESOURCES

Mover safety: fmcsa.dot.gov/protect-your-move • Mail forwarding: usps.com/move •
Your real estate team: 904.826.3690