



YOUR ESSENTIAL MOVING CHECKLIST

3 Months

- Book your plane or ferry tickets
- Sort through all your belongings and get rid of items you no longer need. Sell them, donate to charity, or recycle. It's also a good idea to note down, as you go, whether any items need special packaging or extra insurance cover
- Start researching removals companies - are they Trading Standards Approved, are they members of any professional organisations? Can they handle the complexities of customs clearance and transfer of residency on your behalf?
- Research your new town/city and join Facebook groups or expat forums to learn about the local culture there
- If you have the time, start to learn the new language, or learn a few important phrases
- When the removal company surveys the move, are they taking account of special packing requirements. Consider a full packing service, to help ease your stress and make the customs procedure much easier
- Inform your local children's school of your plans and ask for transfer certificates and any information which will be relevant
- Contact the vet for your dog or cat to get their Pet Passport, and arrange to get the Animal Health Certificate
- Create a 'moving binder' where you can keep all your important documents to hand, including your passports, driving licences, certified documents, etc. It's also a good idea to back up your computer's hard drive and upload important files to cloud storage i.e. Dropbox, Google Drive or Evernote

2 Months

- Order packing materials. Your removal company should be able to help with this, by supplying strong triple wall boxes
- Ask your doctor and dentist for copies of your family's health records, and give them your new address
- Check all your UK insurance policies, amend them with your new details or cancel if not applicable at your new home
- Tell people your change of address, including - family, friends, local council, etc. If moving from the UK, it might be worth arranging for your post to get redirected for the first year (visit your local sorting office to arrange this)
- If you have not included a packing service with your removal, start to pack away the contents of the house, leaving out the essentials that you need for the next month

1 Month

- Contact all the utility companies and tell them of account end dates for gas, electricity, water, cable TV and telephone. Check that all utilities at the new property abroad will be connected ready for you.
- Start using up things that you can't take on the move, like frozen or perishable foods and cleaning supplies
- Your professional removal company will need to create a comprehensive inventory for customs purposes.
- Check that all your final bill payments are arranged. Make the final payment to the removal company at least 5 days before they arrive to collect on everything on moving day
- If your refrigerator is moving with you, you need to empty, defrost and clean it at least 24 hours before moving day

Moving Day

- Make sure that all items not going inside the removal truck are all together, either in a room away from everything else, or just throw a sheet over it all so nothing gets mixed up.