

# MOVERS GUIDE

*Because with me, good enough just isn't!*



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Your Naples Real Estate Experts group

# 60 DAYS PRIOR

This is the time to start strategically planning your move, step-by-step, to alleviate the stress of last-minute packing and planning.

## Your Move

- Get quotes from at least three moving companies, and make sure they do in-home assessments so your quote is as accurate as possible.
- Determine how many packing supplies you'll need, and designate a room where you can begin to store and organize them and other items that will assist you in your move.
- Make arrangements to transport vehicles.
- Get an appraisal on your expensive items so you can insure them for your move.
- Pare down -- use up, sell, recycle or donate anything you don't want to move.

Make a moving folder or booklet -- include an inventory of your household items with a video or photos.

## Your Records

- Contact your insurance agent to transfer medical, property, fire and auto insurance policies, and while you have them on the phone -- be sure to ask about coverage while you're in transit.
- Create a designated folder for moving-related expenses where you can file all receipts. This will come in handy as many moving expenses are tax deductible. Obtain an IRS Change of Address form, Form 8822, by calling (800) 829-1040 or visiting the IRS website.
- Notify old and new schools and arrange for the transfer of school records and begin the process of registering in new schools.
- Notify doctors and dentists of moves, and seek referrals and collect all medical, dental and school records to ensure you do not forget to obtain them at a later date; some require written permission for this. Keep these in a safe place.
- Contact any memberships or associations to register the move.

## Your Family and Pets

- Make travel arrangements for you and your family. Whether it's renting a car, scheduling a flight or reserving a hotel room, book it at a time that will give you flexibility in case anything goes awry. Be sure to arrive well before your movers' scheduled arrival.
- If you're nearing a pet's regular exam, schedule it now, and start getting recommendations for veterinarians in your new town.



# 30 DAYS PRIOR

## Your Move

- By this point you should have already received estimates and hired a mover. Check with your mover to confirm all the details of the move are set. If you are packing on your own, make the proper arrangements and get the right supplies.
- Make the arrangements to connect and disconnect your cable, internet, electric and any other services you currently use and arranged for service at your new home. Dealing with this at an earlier date will prevent any date and time conflicts you may incur.
- If you need new blinds, curtains or furniture for your new home, buy them now and arrange it so they arrive at your new home when your things do.
- Create an inventory of your stuff so that you can compare against the moving company's list to ensure you don't lose anything in the move. It's also a good aid in determining how much moving insurance you need.
- Get a head start on your packing by packing things that you won't need before the move, like seasonal items such as summer sporting gear.
- Arrange childcare and pet care for the day of your move, or think about a "safe" room they can be during the move itself so they're out of the way. Make a packing plan -- assign everyone a task and involve the kids.
- Make an unpacking plan for the new home -- who does what and diagram where the furniture goes. The movers will not rearrange your furniture for you, so think this through.

## Your Records

- Contact or visit your local Post Office to obtain a Change of Address form. You can also obtain this form online at the Postal Service website.
- Give a change of address to the following: Banks, schools, friends and family, insurance company, doctors and specialists, cell phone company, credit card companies, and magazine and newspaper subscriptions.
- Investigate the popular banks in the area you will be living in so that you can close and open new bank accounts as needed.
- Check requirements for a new driver's license and complete auto registration.
- If you will be making an international move, make sure your passport is up to date and has not expired. Passports generally take three weeks to process.
- Let service providers -- landscapers, cleaning services -- know you're moving, and look for new ones in your new hometown.
- Your Family and Pets
- If time permits, you may also want to take you and your family to your dentist and/or eye doctor to get your routine check ups done. It can be a good idea to take care of these things while you still have access to professionals that you know.
- Encourage children to make an address book of friends.

## Quick Tips

- Get car ready for the trip including maps.

# 14 DAYS PRIOR



## Your Move

- Begin cleaning any rooms in your house that have been emptied, such as closets, basements or attics, and check to make sure you did not leave anything unpacked. Moving plants?
- Check on their special moving needs.
- Make arrangements to clean your new home, and the home you're moving out of. Also, arrange for any services for your new home that will be easier to do before your things arrive: carpet-cleaning, wood floor cleaning, painting, etc.

## Your Records

- Find pharmacies in your new town that you can transfer your family's prescriptions over to. Make sure you have enough required medication in case you don't locate a new pharmacist/doctor immediately.
- Organize important documents -- will, passport, deeds, financial statements -- to carry with you when move; make copies that you can pack with your household goods, but carry the originals with you.
- Your Family and Pets
- Is your pet ready for the move? Make sure you have transportation arranged, and that you have someone who can watch the pet during the move. Also, make sure the pet is up to date on its shots.

## Quick Tips

- Collect valuable items such as jewelry or heirlooms and keep them separate from the rest of your packed belongings so you don't risk losing them.
- Return any borrowed items, such as library books, and collect any clothing that you may have taken to be dry-cleaned.

# 1 WEEK PRIOR

## Your Move

- Pack any items you have not had a chance to pack yet. Your final week at home has the potential to be very stressful; don't push things off until the last minute.
- As you're packing, be sure you're labeling each box for where it goes in your new home -- if you don't do this now, you might very well forget what's in what box. Also, where applicable mark the boxes "Fragile," "Do not load," or "Load last."
- Call your mover and confirm your move date, and make any special arrangements for items like a piano.
- Arrange for payment for movers, a \$20-25 cash tip per mover is usual.
- Confirm closing/move-in dates with your real estate agent; confirm dates with your storage people.
- Discuss contingency plan for the movers running late. Where will you sleep?
- Disconnect and disassemble your computer and peripherals. Back up your computer files on a disk or flash memory drive. You should plan to take these files with you in the car or whatever mode of transportation you will be using to get to your new home. Exposure to extreme temperatures can damage your software and files.
- Dispose of paint, oil, and weed killers. Drain fuel out of mowers. Discard propane tanks from grills.

## Your Records

- Make sure all scheduled deliveries (newspaper, milk, etc.) have been canceled or redirected to your new home.
- Open a new banking account. Don't close your old one until you move. If you bank online, be sure to update your address for statement delivery.
- Get together all keys, alarm codes and garage door openers and place them in a folder so that you can be prepared to hand them over to the new owner or real estate agent.
- Your Family
- Start preparing your kids for the move. Talk about it, and engage them in the process -- maybe they can help color-code boxes to help the movers know where stuff goes.
- Empty all lockers at school, work or at your gym.
- Return any borrowed items from friends, the library or video store -- you don't want to fumble with this on your moving day.

## Quick Tips

- Think about quick and easy meals you can prepare for your family to use up the remaining food in your refrigerator so that it does not go to waste, and also allow you to pack some kitchen items.





# MOVING DAY

## Your Move

- Put together a moving day survival kit with items you will need for the trip and immediately when you arrive at your new home. These items include toilet paper, snacks, bottled water, dishes, toiletries, towels, a few days' worth of clothes. Be sure to plan for the contingency that your household items may arrive a day or even a few days late if you are doing a long distance move.
- Double check any arrangements you might have made to transport your pet. Do you have proper travel gear?
- Write out a list for your movers of things they'll need: phone numbers; exact moving address and maps.
- Check the inventory list and sign it. Put your copy in your moving folder.
- Read the Bill of Lading carefully and sign it, if it is correct.
- Make sure you have the moving companies contact information with you in your moving folder.
- In your new home, tape names to doors to assist movers; map out the floor layout so movers know what's going where; finally, prepare your new home for moving to prevent any damage.
- If you don't have professional cleaners coming in, make sure you clean your home before leaving.
- Pack a moving day box of things you'll be moving yourself so you have access to them right away. Cell phone, light bulbs, tool kit, scissors, flashlight, trash bags, paper towels, toilet paper, aspirin and bed linens. Make sure you have extra packing material on hand for things that arise last minute.
- Pack pet food and pet litter.
- Be sure you have cash on hand for the move. Find out if you'll owe money after the move and find out what form of payment they accept.
- Double check to be sure you're on target for your utilities to be hooked up.
- Do the walk through with your real estate agent. Make sure everything's where it should be. Also ask for appliance manuals and such.

## Quick Tips:

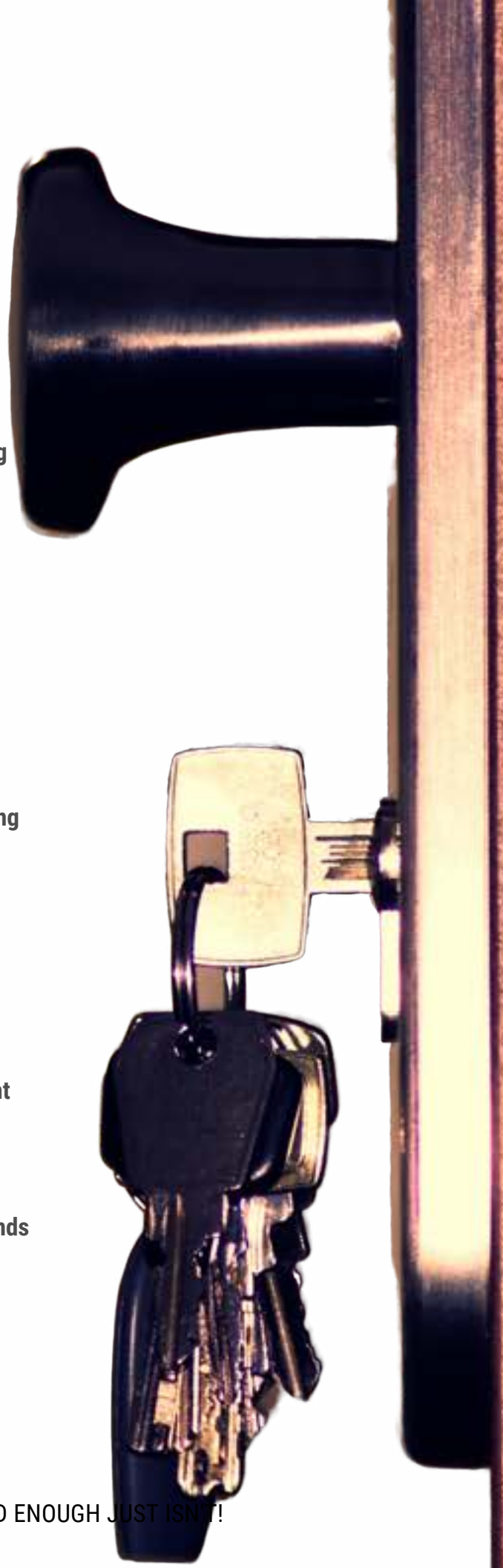
- Empty, clean and defrost your refrigerator/freezer and use baking soda to rid it of any foul odors.
- Notify the police in your town if your home will be uninhabited for a long period of time.
- Before you move, mow your lawn one last time, especially if your home will not be unoccupied immediately after your departure.
- Make sure you know what to do with final trash.


# AFTER THE MOVE

- Get your kids involved in the unpacking process, and help them find activities in your new town.
- Get moving deposits back
- Make sure you have fire extinguishers and fire detectors in your new home.
- Do any quick repair work that needs to be done, if you didn't do it before moving in.
- Tackle some fun first projects to help make your house a home, like hanging pictures and other simple projects
- Explore the new town -- get acquainted, find out where everything is, etc.
- Replace the locks if you're uneasy about keeping the locks that came with the house.
- Check on licenses for pets.
- Update your address for all these: voter registration, drivers license, tax forms, new bank account, etc.
- Start thinking about the larger home-renovation projects you'd like to get started, and prioritize them.

## NOTIFICATIONS

- The DMV
- Alumni organizations
- Health insurance providers
- Car insurance providers
- Magazines
- Newspapers
- Consumer catalogs
- Retail credit cards
- Drugstore rewards programs
- Fraternities and sororities
- Charitable organizations
- Volunteer programs
- Professional associations
- Hotel loyalty programs
- Banks
- Car rental services
- Children's schools
- Professional journals
- Utility companies
- Post office for mail forwarding
- Employers
- Internal Revenue Service
- Food delivery services
- Religious organizations
- Cell phone providers
- Home service providers
- Garbage or sewer services
- Voter registration department
- Your doctor
- Your lawyer
- The gym or sports club
- Your 401k and retirement funds
- Your pet's veterinarian
- Rewards programs
- Your friends and family
- Laundry delivery services
- Your Amazon account





*"We were so fortunate to have Renee referred to us by local agents in Charlottesville, VA. Her knowledge of the area and above-and-beyond service started well before our house hunting trip to Naples. She listened to our requirements, set us up to review listings before our visit, previewed each property before our visit, and was a joy to work with. When we asked to move up closing by 10 days so we could go to our granddaughter's graduation in Maryland, Renee made it happen. When I missed passing on a requirement from our lender, Renee made it happen seven days prior to closing! Renee is the consummate professional, AND she is a pleasure to be around! We love our Naples winter home and our Naples real estate professional!"*

*It's been a pleasure working with you to sell our home. Your organizational, interpersonal and communication skills and your work ethic are way above and unlike any other agent we have ever worked with, and we have done this quite a few times...thank you very much."*

*Having 7 different addresses in the last 10 years, our family has had many experiences with Realtors. Renee is easily on the top of our list of favorite Realtors. Renee's energy and optimism created a fun and engaging search process. Her industry knowledge, intelligence, negotiations skills and attention to detail helped us feel comfortable through the buying process. But, most importantly, her focus on client service and "going the extra mile" for her clients is amazing and a rare find. Renee genuinely wants to find the best option for her clients and it shows in everything she does. I'd highly recommend Renee."*

*Because with me, good enough just isn't!*



## PREPARING TO MOVE – 60 DAYS BEFORE THE MOVE

This is the time to start strategically planning your move, step-by-step, to alleviate the stress of last-minute packing and planning.

### YOUR MOVE

- Create a “moving” file or folder to store quotes, receipts, and records related to your move. Include an inventory of your household items with a video or photos. TIP: Storing documents on Google Drive will allow a common storage place to access from anywhere.
- Get quotes from multiple insured moving companies. Make sure you hire someone you feel you can trust, asking your friends and family for referrals is a great idea! We also recommend ensuring they do in-home assessments so your quote is as accurate as possible. Read over documents from your movers before signing anything. Don't let contracts intimidate you by learning about the documents you'll be receiving ahead of time. We can't emphasize enough how important this is. TIP: Confirm that your moving company is licensed and insured by verifying their Department of Transportation number (also referred to as a DOT number).
- Determine the quantity and type of packing supplies you'll need, and designate a room where you can begin to store and organize them and other items that will assist you in your move.
- Make arrangements to transport vehicles.
- Get an appraisal on your expensive items so you can insure them for your move.
- Pare down -- use up, sell, recycle or donate anything you don't want to move. Plan a garage sale. Then, donate anything left that you couldn't sell.
- Plan how to move fragile or unusual items, such as guns, pianos, fine art, pool tables or safes. The movers you hire may not be qualified to move some larger (or more expensive) items, so you may need to hire a specialty mover to do the job. Make sure you're aware of exactly what the movers you hired will and will not move.

### YOUR RECORDS

- Transfer medical, property, fire and auto insurance policies, and while you have them on the phone - be sure to ask about coverage while you're in transit.
- Notify old and new schools and arrange for the transfer of school records and begin the process of registering in new schools.
- Collect all medical and dental records. Some require written permission for this. Also request copies of vet records and get any necessary pet medication.
- Contact any memberships or associations to register the move.

### YOUR FAMILY & PETS

- Make travel arrangements for you and your family. Whether it's renting a car, scheduling a flight or reserving a hotel room, book it at a time that will give you flexibility in case anything goes awry. Be sure to arrive well before your movers' scheduled arrival
- If you're nearing a pet's regular exam, schedule it now, and start getting recommendations for veterinarians in your new town.

## PREPARING TO MOVE – 30 DAYS BEFORE THE MOVE

### YOUR MOVE

- By this point you should have already received estimates and hired a mover. Check with your mover to confirm all the details of the move are set. If you are packing on your own, make the proper arrangements and get the right supplies.
- Make the arrangements to connect and disconnect your cable, Internet, electric and any other services you currently use and arrange for service at your new home. Dealing with this at an earlier date will prevent any date and time conflicts you may incur.
- Take photos of all electronics before unplugging them. This will help jog your memory when you're reconnecting things such as your TV and stereo.
- Create an inventory so that you can compare against the moving company's list to ensure you don't lose anything in the move. It's also a good aid in determining how much moving insurance you need.
- Get a head start on by packing things that you won't need before the move, like seasonal items such as summer sporting gear.
- Put all your hardware in labeled baggies for easy furniture reassembly.
- Arrange child/pet care for the day of your move, or think about a "safe" room they can be during the move itself so they're out of the way. Make a packing plan - assign everyone a task and involve the kids.
- Make an unpacking plan for the new home -- who does what and diagram where the furniture goes. The movers will not rearrange your furniture for you, so think this through.
- If you're moving into or out of multi-unit building, find out if there are any moving day requirements.
- Address minor home repairs before moving out.

### YOUR RECORDS

- Contact or visit your local Post Office to obtain a Change of Address form. You can also obtain this form online at the Postal Service website.
- Change of address to the following: Banks, schools, friends and family, insurance company, doctors and specialists, cell phone company, credit card companies, and magazine and newspaper subscriptions.
- Investigate the popular banks in the area you will be living in so that you can close and open new bank accounts as needed.
- Check requirements for a new driver's license and complete auto registration.
- If you will be making an international move, make sure your passport is up to date and has not expired. Passports generally take three weeks to process.
- Let service providers -- landscapers, cleaning services -- know you're moving, and look for new ones in your new hometown.

### YOUR FAMILY & PETS

- If time permits, make appointments to get your routine checkups done. It can be a good idea to take care of these things while you still have access to professionals that you know.
- Get the car ready for the trip including maps. Reserve hotels needed as part of travel.

## PREPARING TO MOVE – 2 WEEKS BEFORE THE MOVE

### YOUR MOVE

- Begin cleaning any rooms in your house that have been emptied, such as closets, basements or attics, and check to make sure you did not leave anything unpacked.
- Make arrangements to clean your new home, and the home you're moving out of.
- Collect valuable items such as jewelry or heirlooms and keep them separate from the rest of your packed belongings so you don't risk losing them.
- Arrange for any services for your new home that will be easier to do before your things arrive: carpet-cleaning, wood floor cleaning, painting, etc.
- Return any borrowed items, such as library books, and collect any clothing that you may have taken to be dry-cleaned.
- Measure doorways, stairways, and elevators to make sure all your furniture will fit. Measure twice – move once!
- Confirm parking options for your moving truck – you may need a permit for moving day.

### YOUR RECORDS

- Find pharmacies in your new town that you can transfer your family's prescriptions over to. Make sure you have enough required medication in case you don't locate a new pharmacist/doctor immediately.
- Organize important documents -- will, passport, deeds, financial statements -- to carry with you when you move; make copies that you can pack with your household goods, but carry the originals with you.
- Notify old and new schools and arrange for the transfer of school records and begin the process of registering in new schools.
- Contact any memberships or associations to register the move.

### YOUR FAMILY & PETS

- Make sure you have transportation arranged, and that you have someone who can watch the pet during the move. Also, make sure the pet is up to date on its shots.
- If you're nearing a pet's regular exam, schedule it now, and start getting recommendations for veterinarians in your new town.

## PREPARING TO MOVE – 1 WEEKS BEFORE THE MOVE

### YOUR MOVE

- Pack an essentials box with everything you'll need for your first 24 hours in your new home.
- Pack any items you have not had a chance to pack yet. Label each box for where it goes in your new home -- if you don't do this now, you might very well forget what's in what box. Also, where applicable mark the boxes "Fragile", "Do not load", or "Load last".
- Call your mover and confirm your move date, and make any special arrangements for items like a piano. Discuss contingency plans for the movers running late. Where will you sleep? Arrange for payment for movers. Consider a tip for movers.
- Arrange for any services for your new home that will be easier to do before your things arrive: floor cleaning, painting, etc.
- Confirm closing/move-in dates with your real estate agent; confirm dates with your storage people.
- Open a new banking account. Don't close your old one until you move. If you bank online, update your address for statement delivery.
- Disconnect and disassemble your computer and peripherals. Backup your computer files on a disk or flash memory drive. You should plan to take these files with you in the car or whatever mode of transportation you will be using to get to your new home. Exposure to extreme temperatures can damage your software and files.
- Recycle or dispose of corrosives, flammables, and poisonous items. Make sure you're disposing of toxic items properly. Dispose of paint, oil, and weed killers. Drain fuel out of mowers. Discard propane tanks from grills.
- Get together all keys, alarm codes and garage door openers and place them in a folder so that you can be prepared to hand them over to the new owner or real estate agent.
- Think about quick and easy meals you can prepare for your family to use up the remaining food in your refrigerator so that it does not go to waste, and also allow you to pack some kitchen items.
- Remove light bulbs from all lamps you plan to move.
- Back up your computer. If something happens to equipment during your move, you'll be thankful you have everything saved in an alternate place.
- Cancel or transfer your membership at the gym, yoga studio, Crossfit facility, etc.
- Change address for Social Security within 10 days of moving. Notify their offices, including the Social Security Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, and the IRS.
- Change your address with loan providers, credit cards, banks, and the payroll department at work. Also, remember to order new checks.
- Transfer your homeowner's insurance to your new home.
- Update your address for newspaper and magazine subscriptions.
- Make sure you canceled and/or redirected scheduled deliveries. Update your address with Amazon and any monthly subscriptions boxes you receive.
- Update your voter registration

## PACKING TIPS

### YOUR MOVE

- Number all your moving boxes individually, especially if you personally won't be moving them (1 of 15, 2 of 15... etc.). This way, it's easy to see if a box got lost in transit well before it's time to unpack.
- Pack room by room, and every time you put something into a box make a note in a designated notebook of what it is and the box number. You don't have to make this complicated, just quickly take a note and keep moving on. It can be as easy as "silverware" "master bathroom towels". If there is more than one type of thing in the box (silverware, baking sheets, hand towels) that is ok! Just make sure you make a note of everything.
- Grab a pack of colored packing tape, and dedicate each color to a different room. Yellow for the kitchen, purple for the bedroom, etc. Color-code the boxes for each room with a big mark in the designated color so that movers know exactly where to drop each box. This also allows for easy box finding if you're having to store your boxes for a while!

