

Packing & Moving Checklist

TWO MONTH TIMELINE // provided by THE HARRISONBURG HOMES TEAM @ Kline May Realty

2 MONTHS BEFORE THE MOVE

Prepare:

- ☐ Start gathering boxes of varying sizes
- ☐ Pack up and clean out outbuildings
- ☐ Start eating frozen and perishable foods
- ☐ Keep a list of incoming mail and notify change of address
- ☐ Notify schools and make transfer arrangements, if applicable
- ☐ Hire a moving company, if desired

Pack:

- ☐ Decor, vases, candles, and other fragile items
- ☐ Art
- ☐ Family photos and albums
- ☐ Books
- ☐ Out-of-season items/clothing/gear/accessories
- ☐ Outdoor supplies

1 MONTH BEFORE THE MOVE

Prepare:

- ☐ Set aside any important documents, such as medical records and birth certificates, to keep with you during the move

Pack:

- ☐ Infrequently used kitchen items, pantry foods, cookbooks
- ☐ Items in your storage closets

3 WEEKS BEFORE THE MOVE

Prepare:

- ☐ Notify your insurance companies, accountant, bank, etc., about your change of address
- ☐ Dispose properly of any unwanted chemicals, fuel, etc.

Pack:

- ☐ Table linens and fine china
- ☐ Coat closet
- ☐ Board games, puzzles, and infrequently used toys
- ☐ Craft and sewing supplies

2 WEEKS BEFORE THE MOVE

Prepare:

- ☐ Arrange childcare, if necessary, for moving day
- ☐ Arrange transportation and care of family pets

Pack:

- ☐ Home office
- ☐ Linen closet
- ☐ Jewelry
- ☐ Infrequently used bathroom supplies and toiletries
- ☐ Mudroom

1 WEEK BEFORE THE MOVE

Prepare:

- ☐ Redirect mail to your new address through the post office
- ☐ Change address on license and registration for vehicles

Pack:

- ☐ Movies, video games, speakers, and other electronics/entertainment items
- ☐ Clothing, accessories, and shoes (except what is needed for a week)
- ☐ Medicines/remedies
- ☐ Miscellaneous items (you'll find them!)

5 DAYS BEFORE THE MOVE

Prepare:

- ☐ Finalize utility accounts, including disconnection and connection at new address
- ☐ Change address on any subscription, newspaper, or home delivery services

Pack:

- ☐ Bathrooms (except what is needed for 5 days)
- ☐ Toys (except for a few that the kids choose to keep out)

3 DAYS BEFORE THE MOVE

Prepare:

- ☐ Cancel any lawn mowing and cleaning services
- ☐ Empty trash cans and clear out the garage/carport

Pack:

- ☐ Suitcases with what is needed for the next few days
- ☐ Curtains/draperies, if applicable (run through the wash first)
- ☐ Kitchen – everything, including food (hello, take-out!)

1 DAY BEFORE THE MOVE

Prepare:

- ☐ Defrost the freezer
- ☐ Clean all appliances – inside and out
- ☐ Take apart furniture so that it can be easily moved

Pack:

- ☐ A box with essentials for the first day, such as coffee, soap, toilet paper, paper goods, etc.
- ☐ Laundry room
- ☐ Last of the toys
- ☐ Cleaning supplies, except what you'll need for final clean-up

MOVING DAY

Prepare:

- ☐ Carry all important documents with you (stick this box in your car first so you know it stays with you!)
- ☐ Stash essentials box into your vehicle (or last on the moving truck)
- ☐ Double check that nothing has been left behind
- ☐ Sweep, vacuum, and dust all rooms after everything is out
- ☐ Make sure all faucets and lights are turned off
- ☐ Lock doors and windows and collect all keys
- ☐ Perhaps take one last photo of your old place

Pack:

- ☐ All linens removed from beds
- ☐ Towels used that day
- ☐ Final necessities into suitcases
- ☐ Cleaning supplies

AFTER THE MOVE

- ☐ Clean before your stuff enters, if possible. Cleaning before unpacking anything works well, too.
- ☐ Change the locks, because you never know who has key copies.
- ☐ Paint. The best time is before the room has any furniture in it.
- ☐ Inspect your belongings to ensure everything is accounted for and in tact.
- ☐ Lay out essentials for children and pets to get them more comfortable in the new space.
- ☐ Make the beds, because you'll be tired.
- ☐ Meet the neighbors.

PACKING TIPS

- ▶ Wrap items individually, placing the heaviest items on the bottom and lightest items on the top.
- ▶ Pack similar items and sets in the same box.
- ▶ Label each box as you go with a description and the room it belongs to.
- ▶ Pack books in small boxes because they get heavy.
- ▶ Clean or wipe off everything as you pack them so you don't bring your old dirt to your new home.
- ▶ Disconnect appliances from power and water supply just before final lock-up.
- ▶ Dispose properly of expired food, liquids, and medicines as you pack.

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