



Your guide to moving home

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Your guide to moving home

If you have ever purchased a new home or if you are just about to, it helps to know that there is more to moving than just packing a few boxes...

This guide will help you organise each stage of your move, to try and make the process as easy and stress free as possible.

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Planning your move

To try and make the moving process as stress free as possible, here are a few things which you can arrange early and tick off the list of 'things to do':

1 Appoint a removals firm

- Obtain a variety of quotes, provisionally book and ask for written confirmation
- Ask about the difference in price if you were to move mid week – it may work out cheaper
- Check the insurance of the removal firm - some firms will cover your goods in transit, but others might not

2 Switch your utility providers

- Once you know your moving date, try to notify your service provider's 6 weeks before completion – this includes your gas, electricity, phone and water

3 Switch your TV license

- Notify the TV License company of your new address and transfer your license
- Failure to do so could result in prosecution and a fine of up to £1000!

4 Make arrangements for children and pets

- It may be easier to arrange for your children to stay with friends or family while you move
- Consider booking your pet into a cattery or kennels for the night, or ask friends or family to take care of them

5 Keep your neighbours informed

- It's polite to warn your neighbours of potential disruption

6 Start packing early...

- Use smaller boxes to make removal easier and safer
- Devise a colour code or visual method so that you can easily recognise which box goes into which room
- Write on each side of the box to indicate the contents and how fragile they are
- Using bubble wrap will protect those items which are valuable, and larger items can be wrapped in cling film or newspapers to prevent scuffs and stains
- Pack essential items, such as toiletries, in suitcases so they are easy to access
- Try to pack non-essential items early – for example, items in the garage and loft.

One week before moving

1 Confirm your move time

- Double check roughly what time the keys to your new property will become available
- Your possessions shouldn't arrive at your new property before you do – any delay in moving out and into your new home could increase your removal costs

2 Redirect your mail

- This can easily be done online via The Royal Mail. The URL for this is as follows: www2.royalmail.com/delivery/inbound-mail/redirections
- The process normally takes 5 days and will ensure your mail is sent on to your new address

3 Inform friends and family of your new address

- Communicate your new address details via email or change of address cards

4 Settle outstanding bills

- Pay any outstanding utility bills
- Ensure that any home delivery services are cancelled

5 The new occupants

- List your current utility providers and leave instructions for how to work the alarms, boilers and so forth
- Leaving some flowers or a bottle of wine is good to build relationships with the people buying your property, just in case you need to speak to them again in the future.

Great news! Countrywide Home Mover Services can help you arrange your Gas & Electricity...

We have teamed up with Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE), the UK's second largest energy company, to help you change the way you use energy – so you only use what you need, your way and save money!

Your Gas and Electricity

Before you move out of your current property, make a note of your final meter readings and ensure you pass these to your current supplier.

When you move into your new property, call us with your new meter readings and we will arrange the rest for you.

To speak to an advisor or to find out more:

- Call SSE on **0845 071 3977**



The day before moving

1 Empty the freezer

- Use a cool box to transport any frozen foods you wish to keep

2 Preparation

- Take down your curtains and blinds and roll up any carpets you are taking with you
- Mark up any items which are staying in the property to avoid any confusion
- Put aside items to make moving day more comfortable, such as toilet paper, a kettle, milk and refreshments

3 Prepare for the handover

- Round up all the keys to your home, including those left with family/neighbours etc.

4 Arranging your gas and electricity supplies

- Take a note of your final meter readings
- Make sure you have spoken to your supplier and arranged your supply for your new home.

Moving day

1 Finish the last of the packing

- Dismantle and pack up the last of your essential items, such as beds and TV's

2 Brief your removals company

- Show the removers which items are going and staying
- Swap mobile numbers with the removers so you're able to stay in contact
- Double check that the removers have directions to your new property
- Point out any items which require extra care

3 Before leaving

- Check you haven't left anything behind
- Have all paperwork and contact numbers relating to the move with you
- Check all windows and doors are locked and the utilities are turned off
- Make sure that legal completion of your transaction has taken place before allowing the new occupants into your home

4 Collect your new keys

- Pick up the keys to your new home

5 Upon arrival

- It is important to make sure that legal completion of your transaction has taken place so that you know that you are allowed to take occupancy of your new home
- Show the removers which rooms to put your items in
- Read the meters and check that the phone, gas, electricity and hot water are all working
- Make sure that any items included in the sale are there; if there is anything missing or damaged, contact your property solicitors
- Alert your surveyor if you discover any building faults that were missed in your property survey

6 Relax and celebrate!

- By the end of your move day you'll be tired, so relax on the sofa, order a takeaway and celebrate your achievement and hard work over a drink.

After your move

Don't forget to Write your Will...

Having gone through the long process of moving house, it is important to protect your new home and all of your possessions within it.

Countrywide Mortgage Services are able to provide a Will writing service through Just Wills, to make sure that you protect your assets should the worst happen.

To book an appointment or find out about the importance of having a Will:

- Call **0800 840 9187** to speak to an advisor
- Email us – justwills@mortgagescountrywide.co.uk
- Visit our Estate Agency website www.propertywide.co.uk/Wills