



# SUNNY GAWRI'S

# Moving Checklist



# Moving Checklist



You found a new home! Congratulations! As moving day approaches, knowing what to do and when will help make the process simpler and less stressful. While this list is comprehensive, it's a good idea to consult with your real estate agent about special considerations for your move.

***\*Expert organization tip:** Use a binder with divider tabs and pockets to keep everything related to your move in one place. Ideas for the different sections to use in the binder include: moving checklist, calendar, shopping list, items to sell, home improvement details, important phone numbers, home inventory, estimates, moving company, and real estate details.*

## 2 Months in Advance

- **Keep, donate, sell, throw away:** Go through each room in your home and decide what items you want to take with you and what you want to donate, sell, or pitch.
  - Now is a good time to post classified ads for items you want to sell.
  - For items you want to keep, consider what might need special packaging or insurance.
- **Make a home inventory:** As you work on the task above, make an inventory of the things you'll take to your new home. Take pictures. Place a copy of the pictures in your binder and save a copy online with a cloud storage service you trust.
- **Order packing supplies:** If you're packing your own belongings, you'll need boxes, bubble wrap, packing paper, permanent markers, packing tape, tape gun (one for each adult is a good idea), moving blankets (you can rent these from companies that rent moving vehicles), and specialty containers (e.g., TV boxes, wardrobe boxes, dish barrels).
- **Look into moving companies:** Get estimates from at least three companies. The best moving companies are those that provide on-site estimates in writing. Many reputable companies paint Department of Transportation (DOT) numbers on their trucks.
  - If you're not using a moving company, now is a good time to start looking for hired or volunteer help for moving day. Be sure to have a list of backups in case members of your core crew can't make it.
    - If hiring a moving company, learn about items they will not move, such as aerosol sprays or cleaning chemicals.
- **Obtain school records:** Have your children's current school transfer records to the new school district. (Your real estate agent can tell you the name of your future school district.)
- **Get rid of perishable items:** If you're moving far away, eat or donate perishable foods.
- **Understand company transfer policies:** If an employer is paying for your relocation, have a good understanding of its moving policies to avoid unexpected surprises.
- **Plan for pets:** If you're moving with animal companions, make arrangements for the big day.
  - You might need to hire a pet sitter for the days you're loading and unloading the moving truck. If flying to your new home, it's a good idea to learn about the airline's policies regarding pet travel.
- **Know your new home's dimensions:** Obtain the measurements of the rooms and main doorways in your new home. Then measure your furniture to ensure larger pieces will fit through the doors.

**SUNNY GAWRI**

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

416 648 4004

905 335 8808

sunny@sunnygawriteam.com



REAL ESTATE TEAM

sunnygawriteam.com

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## 1 Month in Advance

- **Book flights and rental vehicles**
- **Rent a moving truck:** If you're not hiring movers, book a vehicle now to ensure it's available for the big day.
- **Hire a moving company:** Secure a written confirmation of the arrangements you made, costs, moving dates, and other important details.
- **Talk to your homeowner's insurance agency:** Verify if the contents in the moving truck are covered while they're in transit even if the moving company is insured.
- **Arrange childcare**
- **Arrange pet care**
- **Think about interior design:** Using the dimensions you have of your new home, plan where you'll place your furniture. This is also a good time to think about paint, installing new flooring, ordering new window treatments, purchasing appliances, and taking care of other details that will help make your house a home after the closing date.
- **Start packing:** Pack the things you do not use often first (e.g., seasonal décor, sports equipment, fine china). Make a note of items that cost more than \$100 per pound (e.g., electronics) and declare them in writing to the moving company.
  - o Label the boxes with their contents and the room in which they belong.
    - o Label boxes "pack last" for items you'll need right away in your new home (e.g., kitchen items, multi-tool, box cutter, trash bags, bedding). These boxes should be the last things packed into to the moving truck on moving day.
  - o As you come upon user manuals and warranties for items that will stay in your current home, place them in a folder for the new homeowners.
- **Secure valuables:** Personally transport important items and documents to your new home in a safe box. These items include passports, deeds, jewelry, financial statements, keepsakes, the contents of safe-deposit boxes, and a copy of the mover's estimate.
- **Notify the post office of your new address:** You can do this in person or online.
- **Notify important parties of your new mailing address:**
  - o Family member
  - o Department of Motor Vehicles
  - o Friends
  - o Magazine and newspaper providers
  - o Trash company
  - o Social Security Administration
  - o Sewer company
  - o Cable company
  - o IRS (forms 8822 and 3903)
  - o Telephone company
  - o Bank (order checks with your new address)
  - o Cell phone company
  - o Membership associations
  - o Credit card companies
  - o Human resources department at work
  - o Financial institutions
  - o Power company
  - o Insurance companies
  - o Natural gas provider
  - o \_\_\_\_\_

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Notify important parties about your new mailing address (cont.)

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- Arrange for utilities at your new home:** Your real estate agent can tell you about the providers in your new area.
- Obtain medical records:** Your health care providers can forward your medical records to your new providers. However, it's a good idea to have a copy for your own files.
- Arrange for parking:** Moving trucks take up a lot of space. Whether you hire movers or take the DIY approach, verify where the truck will park. Depending on the location, you might need permission or a permit.
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\*Not intended to solicit those under contract with another Brokerage.













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*Curious to learn more about the  
value of your home?*

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**SUNNY GAWRI**

Sales Representative

📞 416 648 4004

[sunny@sunnygawriteam.com](mailto:sunny@sunnygawriteam.com)

