

MOVING COUNTDOWN CHECKLIST

Moving can be an exciting experience, a very stressful one, or somewhere in between. If you follow the tips below, you will have a much smoother transition, and maybe even some time to explore and enjoy your new digs.

T-2 MONTHS

- Start going through everything and decide what you want to move and what you want to get rid of.
- Start a moving folder to keep track of your receipts and moving records.
- Get costs from at least three different rental truck companies (watch out for hidden charges).
- Create a floor plan of your choice based on your budget and your lifestyle.

T-1 MONTH

- Get boxes and other packing supplies.
- Start using up things that you don't want to move.
- Get a "change address form" and change your address at any post office. There's one in the Student Union Memorial Center. You can also do it on-line at www.usps.gov.
- Clean out closets and drawers.
- Make arrangements for people to help you move (calling people last minute only works if you are a really, really, really good cook).
- Schedule disconnection of all utilities and connection to your new place. If you have deposits, request a refund.
- Collect important documents to keep with you — or safely packed away in a safe deposit box — during the move (birth certificate, medical records, legal and financial documents, passport and insurance documents).

T-3 WEEKS

- Start packing — beginning with things that you don't use frequently.
- Properly dispose of items that cannot be moved.
- Return all borrowed items and retrieve loaned ones.

T-1 WEEK

- Aim to finish packing a couple of days before the moving date. Label and number the boxes. Pack and clearly mark an "essentials" box of items that you will need right away (see the travel kit below).
- Set aside things that you will personally transport to your new place, such as jewelry and important files.

T-2&3 DAYS

- Confirm move-in date with landlord. Ask neighbors or the new occupants of your old place to keep an eye out for mail after you move. Check in with them in two weeks, and then a month after that.
- Set aside anything that you will take with you in your car.
- Dismantle beds and other large furniture.

T-1 DAY

- Sleep plenty tonight, because you will need your energy tomorrow.

MOVING DAY

- Jump in! ■

What's in YOUR Moving Kit?

- Moving Boxes
- Sealing Tape [and a Tape Gun if you have a lot to move]
- Bubble Wrap or other insulating material
- Pad of Newsprint or several newspapers [to put between plates, wrap around dishes]
- Box-Knife, scissors
- Blankets / Towels for furniture
- Plastic Bags of all sizes
- Markers



PACK A TRAVEL KIT:

Keys and directions to your new place

Payment for the movers (cash, check, credit, pizza – whatever you agreed upon)

Toiletries: towels, soap, toilet paper, toothbrush

Kitchen: paper towels, sponges, cleansers, water, snacks, special foods, paper plates, cups, and plastic utensils

Personal electronics: cell phone, PDA, alarm clock

Important financial docs: checkbook, personal phone book, ID, credit cards

Basic tools: hammer, nails, screwdriver, masking tape, tape measure, flashlight, light bulbs, pocket knife, trash bags, etc.

Medical necessities: aspirin, eyeglasses, prescription drugs, bandages

Change of clothes

Games for kids

Pet stuff: food and dishes