

Moving Home Checklist

Moving home can seem like a mammoth undertaking but, if you follow this step-by-step checklist, you may find it a whole lot easier...

Before the move...

1. Look for and book a moving company. Or, if moving yourself, shop for and book a rental truck
2. Prepare an inventory of everything you will be taking with you
3. Have a big clean up and throw out. Organise a garage sale, give to friends, sell your items online or donate to charity – see Anton for a free pick up service charity
4. If relocating long distance, give notice at your job and/or schools
5. Also, if moving long distance, book travel arrangements
6. Confirm new school and childcare places if they have been pre-arranged
7. If not, explore the options and apply for places
8. Talk to your children about the move
9. Compile the contact details of friends and colleagues
10. Let the relevant people and organisations know you are moving
11. Investigate local health facilities and sporting and social clubs in your new area
12. Organise a farewell party (or delegate it to family or a good friend!)
13. Give notice to your landlord or agent, if you are in rented accommodation
14. Organise boxes and packing materials
15. Start using all food items in the freezer
16. If possible, visit your new home and start getting familiar with the local area
17. Check your insurance to make sure your goods will be covered during the move

Anton's Tips and Resources

18. Get packing! Have a plan and do one room at a time, leaving just the essentials out until the last week
19. Check on how best to move pets and plants
20. Keep important documents, receipts, bank statements and final bills in one place
21. Organise new homes for plants that won't be going with you
22. Arrange utility disconnections and reconnections
23. Organise to have your mail redirected with New Zealand Post
24. Arrange to have the carpets professionally cleaned just before you move out
25. If necessary, organise a babysitter for the day of the move
26. Clean and defrost the fridge and freezer
27. Back up your computer files before your equipment is packed away
28. Prepare the stereo, DVD player and white goods for packing
29. Collect dry cleaning and return videos, library books and any borrowed items
30. Cancel any deliveries (e.g. newspapers, milk and groceries) – and organise them to start up at your new home
31. Arrange an inspection with the landlord or agent so that your bond can be released
32. Collect the keys for your new home

On the big day itself...

33. If moving yourself, collect the rental truck on time
34. If using a moving company, make sure the driver has the correct details of your mobile number and new address
35. Dispose of food, empty bins and leave the place neat and tidy
36. Check that all items included in your Tenancy Agreement (if applicable) are intact
37. Check that nothing belonging to you has been left behind
38. Make sure you have valuables, essential items, food (e.g. sandwiches and snacks) and drinks with you
39. Read meters so that you won't be overcharged on any utility bills
40. Leave a note with your contact details for the new owner / tenants
41. Make sure that the property is secure and that the lights, hot water system, gas meter and electricity switchboard are turned off
42. Leave the keys with the appropriate person or agency

At your new home...

43. Double-check that everything in the property is in order and meets the terms of your purchase contract
44. Check that the electricity, gas, hot water and telephone connections have been switched on
45. As you begin the unpacking process, check for damage or missing items
46. Check security. If you are concerned, arrange to have the locks changed
47. Update your electoral enrolment details to ensure you are correctly enrolled to vote – go to www.elections.org.nz to enrol or update your address. Free text your name and address to 36 76 or call 0800 36 76 56 for an enrolment form
48. Update your will – this should happen whenever your financial circumstances change
49. Introduce yourself to the neighbours and get acquainted with the neighbourhood
50. And finally, but certainly not least... crack open that bottle of bubbly, set a date for a housewarming party and start celebrating your new home!