

# Moving Checklist

Moving to a new home is exciting—but it can also be overwhelming. With the right movers and a flexible plan, you can avoid most of the stress.

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## Start Planning

- Decide what moving services you need: packing, storage, unpacking, or setup.
  - Tailor services to fit your budget.
  - Research movers early to avoid last-minute stress.
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## Compare Movers

- Get **in-person estimates** from multiple companies. Prices are based on the weight of your items, moving distance, and extra services.
  - Show the estimator **everything** you plan to move.
  - Ask for a written explanation of rates, liability, pickup/delivery schedules, and claims protection.
  - Interstate moves: movers must provide *Your Rights and Responsibilities When You Move* and information on neutral dispute resolution, per FHWA requirements.
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## Be Prepared

- Review your homeowner's insurance for moving coverage.
- Movers typically offer:
  - **Released value insurance** (~\$0.60 per lb. per item).
  - **Full replacement value insurance** (must be signed for).

- Consider riders for special valuables (art, heirlooms, collectibles).
- File claims immediately if damage occurs—keep all packing materials for inspection.

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### Packing & Organizing Tips

- Pack infrequently used items first.
- Sort belongings into **Keep, Donate, or Throw Away**.
- Create an inventory sheet for valuables and track which boxes they're in.
- Label boxes clearly by room; use colored stickers or tape for easy sorting.
- Give movers a floorplan of your new home for efficient unloading.
- Keep boxes under **50 lbs.**; put heavy items in small boxes, lighter items in larger ones.
- Dispose of non-movable items (flammables, propane, fuel).
- Empty gas-powered equipment before transport.
- Take photos of electronics before disconnecting wires.
- Pack a personal **overnight bag** with essentials: toiletries, clothes, meds, chargers, and snacks.

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A smooth move comes down to preparation, the right mover, and smart packing. Plan ahead, stay organized, and you'll be settling into your new home with less stress and more excitement.