

Check off tasks as you settle in. Keep this on the fridge or clipboard during week one.

24 HOURS**Safety + sleep****FIRST WEEK****Function + admin****FIRST MONTH****Systems + settling****First 24 hours - safety & sleep**

Make the house safe and tonight livable before deep unpacking.

- ☐ Photograph move-in condition of floors, walls, appliances, and any damage
- ☐ Confirm water, electric, gas, internet, and trash service are on
- ☐ Test smoke and CO detectors; replace batteries or failed units
- ☐ Find breaker panel, water shutoff, gas shutoff, and thermostat
- ☐ Rekey or change exterior locks when possible; inventory spare keys
- ☐ Stage beds, sheets, pillows, towels, toiletries, meds, chargers, night lights
- ☐ Open essentials kitchen kit: plates, cups, utensils, snacks, trash bags, dish soap
- ☐ Set up one bathroom completely
- ☐ Verify refrigerator and freezer temperatures once plugged in and leveled
- ☐ Walk exterior: porch lights, hose bibs, garage door, fence gates, mailbox
- ☐ Save building codes, gate codes, parking rules, and emergency contacts
- ☐ Order dinner or keep no-cook meals ready

First week - function & admin

Get a working kitchen, sleepable bedrooms, and paperwork moving.

- ☐ Finish kitchen setup: cookware, coffee maker, pantry staples
- ☐ Make every regularly used bed; hang shower curtains or liners
- ☐ Connect washer/dryer and run a short test cycle
- ☐ Submit USPS change of address; update banks, payroll, insurance, streaming
- ☐ Register vehicles or licenses if you crossed city or state lines
- ☐ Confirm trash and recycling days; buy bins if needed
- ☐ Meet nearest neighbors; ask about parking, packages, and quiet hours
- ☐ Map grocery, pharmacy, urgent care, vet, and gas stations
- ☐ Transfer or start home insurance for the new address
- ☐ Update voter registration and school enrollment paperwork
- ☐ Share Wi-Fi password, thermostat schedule, and spare key locations

- ☐ Break down empty boxes daily

First month - systems & settling

Build habits, finish organizing, and plug into local services.

- ☐ Finish unpacking or store seasonal items intentionally
- ☐ Deep clean floors, baseboards, and appliance interiors
- ☐ Schedule HVAC filter changes; note furnace, A/C, and water heater service
- ☐ Test GFCI outlets; replace burnt bulbs; add stair night lights
- ☐ Find primary care, dentist, and ER; transfer prescriptions
- ☐ Update employer HR, tax withholding address, and benefits portals
- ☐ Review local risks and adjust insurance if needed
- ☐ Set reminders for rent/mortgage, HOA dues, and utility auto-pay
- ☐ Stabilize pet routines and locate a nearby clinic
- ☐ Learn HOA or building rules before renovations
- ☐ Host a low-pressure housewarming once the house is walkable
- ☐ Take after photos of organized rooms for future moves

By room

Finish one room to usable before starting three half-finished rooms.

Kitchen

- ☐ Wipe cabinets before filling them
- ☐ Daily dishes at arm level; rarely used items higher
- ☐ Test oven, dishwasher, disposal, ice maker
- ☐ Stock trash bags, paper towels, dish soap, sponge, first-aid
- ☐ Childproof/pet-proof cabinets if needed
- ☐ Confirm fire extinguisher near an exit path

Bedrooms

- ☐ Assemble beds; confirm frames are stable and level
- ☐ Hang window coverings for privacy and sleep
- ☐ Set laundry hamper system on day one
- ☐ Place lamps and chargers before decorative pillows
- ☐ Unpack a week of clothes

- ☐ Mount TVs/mirrors securely

Bathrooms

- ☐ Check for leaks under sinks and around toilets
- ☐ Hang towels, shower liner, and bath mat
- ☐ Store medications safely
- ☐ Stock toilet paper, soap, and cleaning spray
- ☐ Test exhaust fans; replace weak bulbs
- ☐ Note plumber contact if drains are slow

Living areas & entry

- ☐ Create a drop zone for keys, mail, and shoes
- ☐ Arrange seating before buying more furniture
- ☐ Confirm Wi-Fi in work and streaming rooms
- ☐ Secure rugs with pads
- ☐ Mount a small calendar for trash day and school schedules
- ☐ Keep a flashlight and spare batteries by the main door

Find more post move resources

Need more help getting settled after your move? We have more helpful articles and checklists to get organized and settled into your new home.

Visit: <https://bookmymove.com/moving-resources>

Notes
