

Cross off what you already own. Buy safety and first-night items first, then week-one kitchen, bathroom, and tools. Wait on extra furniture and storage until you live in the rooms.

DAY ONE**Safety + sleep****WEEK ONE****Kitchen + tools****MONTH ONE****Measured storage****New home essentials**

Use this as an inventory, not one enormous cart.

Safety and security

- ☐ New exterior lock cylinders or a locksmith appointment
- ☐ Working smoke alarms with replacement batteries
- ☐ Carbon monoxide alarms for required locations
- ☐ Multipurpose fire extinguishers
- ☐ A stocked first-aid kit
- ☐ Flashlights, spare batteries, and night-lights
- ☐ A basic emergency water and food supply
- ☐ Childproofing or pet-safety supplies
- ☐ A fire-resistant box for vital documents and spare keys

Kitchen basics

- ☐ A skillet, saucepan, stockpot, and baking sheet
- ☐ A chef's knife and cutting board
- ☐ A spatula, spoon, tongs, and can opener
- ☐ Plates, bowls, cups, and flatware
- ☐ Food storage containers and reusable wraps
- ☐ Dish soap, sponges, and dish towels
- ☐ A drying rack or dishwasher detergent
- ☐ Trash and recycling cans with fitted bags
- ☐ Cooking oil, salt, pepper, drinking water, and simple meals

Bathroom essentials

- ☐ Toilet paper and tissues
- ☐ Hand soap and personal toiletries
- ☐ Bath towels, hand towels, and washcloths
- ☐ A shower curtain, liner, and rings if needed

- ☐ Nonslip bath mats
- ☐ A toilet plunger for each bathroom
- ☐ Toilet brushes and bathroom cleaner
- ☐ Wastebaskets with liners
- ☐ A shower caddy or under-sink organizer

Bedroom and daily comfort

- ☐ A mattress or safe temporary sleeping pad
- ☐ Sheets, pillows, and blankets
- ☐ Bedroom lamps and phone charging cables
- ☐ Temporary shades or measured window coverings
- ☐ Clothes hangers and a laundry hamper
- ☐ A supportive chair or basic household seating
- ☐ A table, counter, or desk surface for meals and work
- ☐ Power strips or surge protectors used within their ratings
- ☐ Entry hooks, a shoe tray, or another simple drop zone

Cleaning and laundry

- ☐ A vacuum suited to the flooring
- ☐ A broom and dustpan
- ☐ A mop and bucket
- ☐ Microfiber cloths, sponges, and a scrub brush
- ☐ All-purpose cleaner and glass cleaner
- ☐ Rubber cleaning gloves
- ☐ Paper towels and sturdy trash bags
- ☐ Laundry detergent and stain treatment
- ☐ A drying rack, clothesline, or extra hangers

Tools and maintenance

- ☐ A multi-bit screwdriver and claw hammer
- ☐ Pliers and an adjustable wrench
- ☐ A tape measure and level
- ☐ A utility knife, scissors, and work gloves
- ☐ A stable step stool

- ☐ Picture hooks, screws, and suitable wall anchors
- ☐ Duct tape and painter's tape
- ☐ Correctly sized HVAC filters and common lightbulbs
- ☐ A bucket, absorbent towels, drain strainer, and sink plunger

Buy first: day one and first night

Protect the household and make tonight sanitary before decorating.

- ☐ Locks, smoke/CO alarms, fire extinguisher, first-aid kit, flashlights
- ☐ Toilet paper, hand soap, shower supplies, towels, daily medicine
- ☐ Mattress or pad, sheets, pillows, blankets, pajamas, tomorrow's clothes
- ☐ Paper towels, trash bags, wipes, dish soap, sponge, all-purpose cleaner
- ☐ Drinking water, easy meals, snacks, coffee or tea, pet food
- ☐ Scissors or box cutter, tape, markers, work gloves, resealable bags
- ☐ A lamp plus chargers and a surge protector used to its rating

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Notes