

at home MOVING OUT CHECKLIST

1 month to 6 weeks before your move...

- Agree the dates for key handovers with the vendors, your buyer or the relevant estate agents.
- If in a rental, give notice to your current landlord, and agree the dates for key handover, inspection and return of your deposit.
- Contact all your utilities providers (phone, gas, electricity, water, internet etc) and give your moving out dates, arranging the final bills. If you plan to keep the same providers in your new home you can arrange to transfer the account in some cases
- Contact the council to give notice and arrange final council tax bill
- Contact your home insurance provider to notify them of the move and arrange transfer of cover to the new property (make sure it's valid from the moving date).
- Start the process of changing address.
- Book a removal company or van hire if you're doing it yourself. For peace of mind, hire a company that is well recommended and is a member of the British Association of Removers. Get a few quotes and don't be afraid to negotiate.
- Think about where the van will park. If you need to occupy public space in the street, check with your neighbours and give them the relevant dates.
- Book storage if required.
- Order boxes for packing (the removal company will probably provide these if you're using one). NB it's tempting to scavenge boxes from supermarkets but proper packing boxes are much better, as they're designed for the job, strong, and come in a range of useful sizes. Search online to buy packs of them.
- Buy sharpies and parcel tape!
- Take this opportunity to make a thorough audit of your stuff, and take anything you really don't want to a charity shop, tip, or even have a garage sale.
- Start packing things that are not in regular use, like books, clothes and ornaments.
- Clear out storage spaces like attics and sheds. Pack what you're taking and recycle / tip the rest.
- When packing, always label each box clearly with the contents and which room of the new home they are for. Put labels on the furniture.
- Use small boxes for heavy items like books, and large boxes or heavy duty bin bags for bed linen, cushions, clothes etc.
- Clean things before you pack them, so you start afresh with everything polished, dusted and washed at the new home.