

# The BetterSure

## Moving Checklist



**Your new home is waiting for you!** And all that stands between you and moving day is ticking off the items on this to-do list. To keep the process as smooth and simple as possible, we've allocated a manageable number of tasks per week. Stick to our schedule and you'll be on track for your best moving experience yet.



## 8 weeks to go...

- Make a house folder.** Every successful moving day starts with a file – a storage place for quotes, contracts, receipts and all your other move-related paperwork.
- Find a moving company.** Ask friends and family for referrals and start putting a list of comparative quotes together. Hello Peter is another great resource for recommendations (take a look at their Best Businesses tab), and for identifying which companies to avoid.
- Submit school applications.** If you're moving to a new neighbourhood or province, apply for the schools on your list as soon as possible as there may be a waiting list.




## 7 weeks to go...

- Accept the quote from your preferred moving company.** While you're at it, make sure you have your moving date and the Ts and Cs in writing.
- Measure up at the new house.** Contact your property professional and set up a time to visit your new home (if it's not too far away) to measure for furniture, curtains, blinds etc.
- Assess your new home for minor repairs.** Your BetterSure Homeowners Cover has a fantastic maintenance benefit that covers the call-out fee plus one hour of labour (maximum R2 000 per calendar year) for a qualified professional to help with minor repairs and maintenance-related work.




## 6 weeks to go...

-  **Stock up on moving boxes and supplies.** Buy new boxes or approach local retailers for used ones. And don't forget parcel tape, bubble wrap, and permanent markers for labelling.
-  **Decide which furniture is staying** – and which is going. If you're downsizing, or buying furniture to fit your new space, sell the furniture you no longer want or need, or donate it to a charity.
-  **Start decluttering.** Moving house is the perfect opportunity to simplify your life by getting rid of the things you no longer use – everything from crockery and cutlery to linen, books and clothing.



## 5 weeks to go...

-  **Start packing.** Now that you've decided what you won't be taking with you, it's time to pack everything else. It's best to pack room by room, starting with the non-essential items in each one. Remember to label the contents of each box clearly as this will give you a full inventory of your household contents.
-  **Make a valuables box.** This should include valuables like jewellery, passports, policies, and other important documents. Keep it with you on moving day, or arrange to leave it with a family member or friend until you're in your new home.
-  **Change your address.** You may get more mail via your inbox than your postbox, but there are still several businesses that will need your updated address details, including your bank, your employer, and your insurance and investment companies.



## 4 weeks to go...

-  **Clear out your freezer.** Are there frozen meals and leftovers cluttering up your freezer drawers? Start using them now so that your freezer is ready to defrost 24 hours before you move. It's also a good time to work your way through your store cupboard ingredients and finish up your cleaning supplies.
-  **Get your utilities sorted.** Set a reminder to pay your final utilities bill at your current property and make sure that whoever is moving in has transferred the rates, water, electricity and telephone line into their name. Then apply to the council to have these transferred into your name at your new home.
-  **Speak to your internet provider.** If your new property has a fibre connection instead of a telephone line, they'll be able to help you get it transferred into your name.




## 3 weeks to go...

-  **Start packing an 'essentials' box.** This should include everything you'll need on your first day in your new home. Here are a few ideas to get you started: toilet paper, kettle and cups, tea and coffee, dish towels and cleaning sponges, dishwashing liquid, garbage bags, toiletries, lightbulbs, phone chargers, and pet food.
-  **Make day care arrangements.** If you have children or fur babies, make moving day arrangements for them so that you can give your full attention to the move, knowing that they're safe.

## 2 weeks to go...

-  **Apply for leave.** Whether you're planning to be out of the office on moving day only, or you're taking a few days to get settled into your new space, make sure you give your employer enough notice.
-  **Tell your children's teachers you're moving.** Moving house can be extremely stressful, especially for younger children who have only known one home. Letting the school know about your move will allow your kids' teachers to support them in the days leading up to it.

## One week to go...

-  **Pack your clothing.** With your general packing (hopefully) almost done, it's time to start packing your clothing. Don't forget to pack a separate suitcase with enough clothes and linen for your family for the first few days in your new home.
-  **Defrost the freezer.** This should be done at least 24 hours before your movers arrive. Once your freezer is defrosted, give it a good clean, inside and out, so you can switch it on as soon as you get to the other side.
-  **Get cleaning!** Bring out the vacuum cleaner, cloths and what's left of your cleaning supplies and start cleaning out cupboards, wiping down countertops, window sills and light fixtures, and washing windows and floors. Your home's new inhabitants will love you for it!



## On the day...

- Wake up early.** This is going to be one of the busiest days of your year, so make sure you have time for an energy-boosting breakfast and at least one cup of coffee before the movers arrive.
- Take final water and electricity meter readings.** This should help to prevent any billing disputes with the new tenants or owners at a later date.
- Put your 'essentials' box in the car.** And don't forget the suitcase you've packed with clothes and linen for the first few days.
- Do a final check.** Take a moment to walk through your home to reflect on the special memories you've made in it – and double check that you haven't left anything behind!

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