

SIMPLIFY YOUR MOVE

TIPS FROM THE EXPERTS AT CONRAD BROTHERS MOVING & STORAGE

Moving signifies a step forward in life – a new, exciting beginning! Though there is plenty to look forward to following a move, the process can be overwhelming. The easiest way to reduce stress is to be prepared and spread the necessary tasks over the weeks leading up to a move. Follow the guidelines below to set yourself up for success as you prepare for your upcoming move!

4 WEEKS BEFORE YOUR MOVE

CHOOSE A MOVING COMPANY

Moving companies' schedules fill up quickly. It is important to gather quotes and book services for your move-in date as soon as possible. Conrad Brothers Moving & Storage offers solutions to fit any need, whether your move is local or long distance. If you happen to have a last-minute change of plans, we can quickly adapt by storing your belongings in our climate-controlled warehouse.

GATHER MOVING SUPPLIES

Conrad Brothers Moving & Storage offers many products and services to save you time and energy, such as boxes, packing supplies, tape, as well as professional packing and loading. However, if you are packing and acquiring supplies elsewhere for yourself, this is the time to gather the following necessities:

- ✓ Boxes
- ✓ Packing tape
- ✓ Protective wrapping
- ✓ Labels
- ✓ Sharpie markers

Boxes can be bought at home supply stores like Home Depot or often picked up for free at grocery stores. Remember to ask friends and family to save their online shopping boxes!

HAVE A GARAGE SALE

Whether you are down-sizing or have accumulated years of possessions in your current location, moving is the perfect excuse to declutter your life! Follow the advice of declutter expert Maria Kondo and ask yourself where in your new residence each item will go. If no place comes to mind, put it in the discard pile. Use this time to earn a little extra money by selling your unwanted goods and furniture. Donate items that do not sell to your local charity. You can schedule a pickup from your home ahead of time with Goodwill. Remember, you can write charitable giving off on your taxes.

3 WEEKS BEFORE YOUR MOVE

IT'S TIME TO START PACKING

Start the packing process 3-4 weeks out from your move. Begin by packing rooms and items that are used the least:

- ✓ Spare bedrooms
- ✓ Garages
- ✓ Storage closets
- ✓ China
- ✓ Holiday decor

Pack your most essential rooms, like your kitchen, last. Make sure to add a room label and a short description to each box.

ASK YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY FOR HELP

If anyone offers to help with the move, take them up on it. Ask for assistance for things like packing, heavy lifting, babysitting and running errands. Show your appreciation by providing a meal for helpers on packing and moving days.

CREATE A MOVING FOLDER

Homes become chaotic during a move. Boxes and belongings begin to pile up, and it is easy to misplace important information. Create a folder that will contain hard copies of all important documents surrounding your move and keep it easily accessible. It should contain the following:

- ✓ Real estate documents
- ✓ Your new address
- ✓ Moving company contacts
- ✓ To-do lists
- ✓ Bills

2 WEEKS BEFORE YOUR MOVE

ARRANGE A SITTER FOR KIDS AND PETS

Loading a moving truck, while watching young children and pets can be stressful for you and potentially dangerous for them. Consider asking a friend or family member to watch your pets and children for the day. If you choose to book a local pet daycare, remember to make your appointment ahead of time, as they may require recent veterinary records.

HIRE A CLEANING SERVICE

Chances are you will want your new home cleaned before moving in, and you will need to clean the home you are departing after you are fully moved out. Get quotes and book a cleaning service at least two weeks in advance. Note, if you are booking the White Glove Service with Conrad Brothers Moving and Storage, we will take care of cleaning your old house for you.

1 WEEK BEFORE YOUR MOVE

CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS

- ✓ Begin by notifying the post office of your move. They will forward any mail to your new address for the next twelve months. This is easily done online, but you can also fill the paperwork out in person.
- ✓ Contact your internet and cable provider to switch your services over to your new address. This may require them to install equipment at your new home. If they do not service your new location, you will have to end your contract with them and find a new provider.
- ✓ Notify your gas and electric company of the day you will be moving out of your old home and the day you will be moving into your new home to ensure correct billing.
- ✓ Contact Social Security Administration if you receive any social security benefits. You can change your address on their website or contact them at 800-772-1213.
- ✓ Let your employer know of your move, as they need to update your address in their payroll and tax system.
- ✓ Change your address either online or in-person at your bank and with your credit card companies so that you do not miss any bills or important updates.
- ✓ Update your address with your online shopping sites like Amazon so that you do not miss any deliveries.

CLEAN OUT YOUR REFRIGERATOR

The day before or the morning of your move, pack any refrigerated or frozen foods you will be moving into a cooler. Throw away expiring food and condiments that are almost empty. If your refrigerator is going to be unplugged, remember to defrost your freezer.

PACK YOUR ESSENTIALS BAG

It is imperative to designate a bag or box for moving day essentials. Keep it handy at all times so that it does not get misplaced. It is best to load it into your vehicle instead of the moving truck. This bag should contain the following items you will need as soon as you arrive at your new home:

- ✓ Toilet paper
- ✓ Cabinet liners
- ✓ Hand soap
- ✓ Medications
- ✓ Moving folder
- ✓ Electronics chargers
- ✓ Tool kit
- ✓ Toiletries
- ✓ A change of clothes
- ✓ A box cutter
- ✓ Scissors
- ✓ Tape

Conrad Brothers Moving and Storage has decades of moving experience. Contact us today to find your perfect moving solution!