

# The Big Yellow Guide to Moving Home

A print out and keep guide to everything you need to know about moving home.



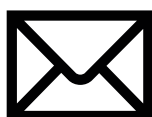
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# Things to do before you move

What you need to do before you get moving.

- Don't forget to tell your bank, insurance company, building society, credit card providers, and your favourite charities before your move.
- Tell TV licensing, Inland Revenue and the DVLA that your address will be changing.
- Update your address on any websites like Amazon and online grocery shops.
- Send change of address cards or emails to friends and family. If you don't have time, set up a mail forwarding service through the post office.
- Organise your utilities to be switched off at your current house when you move out, read the meters, and connect them on your moving day at the new house.
- Round up all keys to your home, including those left with neighbours, nannies and relatives, and give them to your solicitor or estate agent.
- Make a list of all important phone numbers like estate agents, solicitors, the removals company, your insurance company, and utilities along with account numbers. You never know when you'll need them.
- Find out your seller's solicitor's contact details, in case of difficulties with the house.
- Tell your doctor, dentist, and optician, if you'll be registering with different ones.
- Order boxes and packing materials in advance, so you're fully prepared for packing. You can buy a wide range of Big Yellow boxes and specialized packing materials online and in-store.
- Don't forget your phone and Internet service. Make sure they're transferred over and set up in your new home. Send an email out saying you'll be offline for a few days and pack up all computers.

If you think you'll need to book storage space, organize that now with Big Yellow

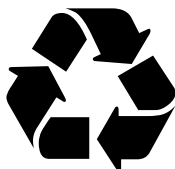
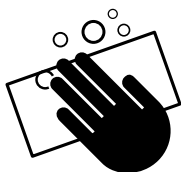


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# Cleaning and clearing out- Tips for the perfect fresh start

What you need to do before you get moving.

- Don't forget to clear your loft, shed and garage. Begin throwing out anything you don't want. Divide the rubbish, separating what can go to your local dump and what the dustmen can take away. Work out what you wish to go into self storage.
- Start eating the food in your freezer and cancel your milk and newspaper delivery.
- Call the local council and find out when the rubbish collection and recycling days are in your new neighbourhood.
- Hire professional cleaners to give your new place a thorough going over before you move in. Some removal firms will arrange to do this. No one wants to arrive late in the night at your new home and then have to get up in the morning and start a taxing spring clean.
- If you need your old house professionally cleaned after you leave, arrange it now.



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# Important things to remember

The essential points when moving.

- Arrange babysitting for any young children, and pet sitting if necessary. If any kids may need a day off school, write a letter now.
- Visit your doctor to arrange supplies of any medicines you regularly take, to keep you going until you can find a new doctor.
- Always use a removal company who is a member of the British Association of Removers and check the fine print in your moving insurance. Always arrange parking for the removal vans at the new house. Your local Big Yellow store can recommend removal companies for you.
- Get cash out for any last minute emergencies, basic supplies and tips.
- The last thing you need is your phone battery dying while directing the removal van to the new house, so don't forget to recharge your mobile.
- Ask the estate agent if the seller can supply a list of recommended local services e.g. a plumber, electrician, for when you move in.

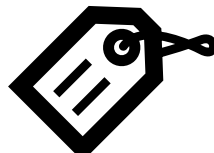


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# Packing, moving and transport

Whether you're moving down the road, or far away, pack and travel with care.

- Make sure all the boxes are labelled and colour co-ordinated for easy identification.
- Pack up together valuable, delicate or small items like ornaments. But remember to store china and breakables in strong cardboard boxes, packing with plenty of bubble wrap, tissue paper or loose fill. Don't use newspaper, as the ink will stain. Big Yellow sell a range of packing boxes, bubble wrap and packing tissue in store and online.
- Pack a box containing the kettle, mugs, teaspoons, sugar, teabags, coffee, snacks, takeaway menus, scissors, a torch, corkscrew/ bottle opener, a radio, soap, toilet paper and towels and mark it clearly.
- Pack a box of basic cleaning and repair products for the new house, including a dustpan and brush, strong bin liners and a tool kit, and mark it clearly. Just so you can take care of those little repairs before you settle in.
- Store heavy items in smaller boxes for easy lifting, for example books.
- Take down curtains and blinds; if you'll be putting the curtains up at the new house, drop them in to a dry cleaner's near the new property (if needed).
- Fill your car with petrol, plan your route and check for road works.
- Avoid Fridays and bank holidays when removal firms are in high demand and will be stretched (and may charge more). For a less stressful move go for off-peak times such as mid-week.
- Ensure your possessions are insured for transit. Most removal companies provide this but check what it covers and whether there are exclusions. For example, anything you pack may not be covered by the removal firm's insurance. And if you are planning to transport any precious items yourself, check that these are covered when in transit by your contents insurance.
- Find out locations of stopcocks and fuse-boxes at your new house.



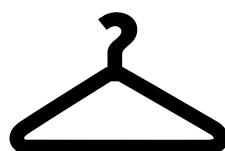
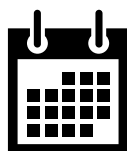
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# The little things

We know there's a lot to remember, but it's important not to forget the little things.

- Introduce yourself to your new neighbours and give them a moving in date.
- Return any borrowed items to friends and family before you go.
- Give away plants and flowers you won't be taking with you.
- Pack school uniforms, school bags, PE kits and schoolwork in a separate box and mark it, so come Monday morning there won't be a mad rush.
- And finally have take away menus with you to hand when you move in, the last thing you want to do is cook when you've spent the day moving.

**For further advice on packing, packing materials and self storage, contact your local Big Yellow store or give us a call on 0800 783 4949.**



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# Check list

- Confirm the date of your move.
- If you're renting, notify your landlord of your moving date.
- Check your contents insurance - make sure you have cover from the day you move in to your new home.
- Obtain written quotes from several removal firms. Get references and check the limits of their insurance.
- If you're not using professional removers, ask friends to help.
- Book extra storage space if required.
- Notify the relevant utility companies of your departure.
- Start getting rid of possessions you no longer need. Decide which items can be taken to a charity shop, sold at car boot sale, or offered to your friends.
- If you need new furniture or carpets - order them now and arrange delivery for when you move in.
- Start packing non-essential items such as books and non-seasonal clothes into boxes.
- De-register from your doctor, dentist and optician if you're moving out of the area.
- Visit the post office and arrange for your post to be forwarded (you will be charged a fee for this service).
- Notify your milkman and newspaper shop that you'll be moving and give them a date you want the service to stop.
- If you have children or pets, arrange for someone to look after them during the move.
- Make a list of everyone who should know about the move. Send out change of address cards.
- Finalise arrangements with your removal company. Confirm arrival times and make sure your removers have directions to your new address.
- Arrange a time to collect the keys for your new home from the estate agent.
- Notify your bank of any changes to direct debits and standing orders.

