

MOVING CHECKLIST

1 Month before

- Compare moving estimates** It's time to compare the moving cost estimates – binding and in writing – you've received from the moving experts after the household inspections are over. Pay attention to the extra services offered and their corresponding charges.
- Protect your move.** Think twice before accepting a price quote that is much lower than the rest of the offers. Bids that are too good to be true could be signs of moving fraud orchestrated by dishonest moving companies.
- Read moving reviews.** Ensure that your home moving partner has an excellent online reputation. Read moving reviews and check overall ratings to get an idea about how customers rated the quality of their relocation services. Maryland Movers is proud to be "A" rated on Angie's List, 5 stars on Google and Yelp and a recommended company on Facebook.
- Book your move ASAP.** Once you've chosen a mover, book your move as soon as you can for possible moving cost reduction. To save extra money on your move, opt for a move date on a weekday in the middle of the month, and ideally – during the off-season.
- Manage your moving paperwork.** Request the necessary paperwork from your moving company and make sure you understand all terms and conditions before agreeing to them. Never sign blank or incomplete documents.
- Ask for you FREE used moving boxes.** Let's face it: you're probably going to need more cardboard boxes than your budget can handle. Ask Maryland Movers for our FREE used boxes program.
- Initiate the packing process.** Start the packing marathon from the rooms in your home that you use the least – usually storage rooms such as garages, basements, attics, guest rooms, and closets. This way, you'll be able to prevent packing clutter.
- Do not skimp on packing supplies.** Use as many packing supplies as it is necessary to protect your valued items. Be generous with padding materials (packing paper, bubble wrap, etc.), especially when you're packing fragile items.
- Keep your packing focus.** Start as early as possible and pack one room at a time – do not attempt to pack up your home in one single gigantic effort. Set mini packing goals and reward yourself when a major goal is reached.
- Label all packed boxes.** Don't forget to label your boxes – use a color marker each cardboard box you've packed for easier post-move identification. Write the content, destination room and special handling instructions on at least two sides of the box.

1 or 2 weeks before

- Do not pack non-allowable items.** Do not invest time or energy into packing things that are forbidden for transportation hazardous, perishable and irreplaceable items. Contact Maryland Movers and request their list of non-allowables.
- Confirm elevator, Loading dock.** And parking reservations/parking permits for moving day at both current and destination addresses. (If required)
Make arrangements for disassembly of specialty items (pianos, swing sets, etc.).
- Make arrangements for child care** and/or a pet sitter for moving day.
- Arrange for time off** from work to prepare for the move and to be present on moving day.
- Confirm your moving day and time** with your moving company. Maryland Movers move coordinators will contact you 1-3 days prior to the move to ensure that all details are accurate for moving day.
- Complete the high-value inventory** form (from the original paperwork sent by your move coordinator) and choose the appropriate valuation (moving insurance) option. Maryland Movers professionals are happy to assist with this process.

Day before the move

- Pack an essentials box** with vital items you can't do without while your other things are in transit. Toiletries, plastic utensils, prescription medicines, change of clothes, shoes – only a small number of the content of your open-first box.
- Guard your valuables.** Pack safely your high-value articles jewelry, collector's items, important documents, electronics and keep them by your side throughout the home move. Under no circumstances should you let movers pack or move your valuables.
- Consolidate clearly marked moving boxes of fragile items** in one area of your home. Alert the movers about these moving boxes on moving day.
Defrost your fridge
- Let your refrigerator and/or freezer defrost** at least 24 hours prior to Moving day. With enough time, you may clean your fridge right there and then, although it'll make more sense to do it after the move.

- Remove all permanently affixed items** that you wish to take from walls and ceilings (drapes, lighting fixtures, ceiling fans, etc.).
- Separate and mark items** not intended to be moved by your movers. Isolate checkbook, keys, passports, plane tickets, cash, credit cards, and prescription medications. These should travel with you in your personal vehicle on moving day.
- Drain gasoline and oil** from lawn mowers, generators, snow blowers, etc.
- Disconnect propane tank** from gas grill. Your movers will not be able to transport the tank on moving day.
- Get a good night's sleep.** Go to bed as early as you can and try to get a good rest the night before your movers show up. Why? It's important to have the energy, stamina, and concentration to survive Move day.

Day of the move

- Keep your phone close by.** Be sure to have your cell phone with you at all times, charged and operational, in case Maryland Movers wants to contact you for some updates. Our foreman will contact you 30 minutes in advance with an estimated time arrival the day of the move.
- Start Moving day early.** Don't make any costly Moving day mistakes like sleeping in. Instead, wake up early on Moving day to have some extra time to get everything ready. Take a deep breath and do everything in your power to keep your cool during one of life's most stressful and unpredictable days.
- Wear appropriate clothes.** Wear comfortable clothes that won't restrict your movements but will still provide decent protection. Have closed footwear with anti-slip soles, preferably sports shoes. Avoid baggy clothes, jewelry, and any loose accessories.
- Ensure Moving day safety.** Moving days can be plain dangerous. Make sure small kids and pets are cordoned off in a safe place in the home, far from the house moving action.
- Identify furniture that is fragile** or has been weakened by previous damage and bring it to your mover's attention on moving day.
- Do the final security check.** Take a final walk around your home to make sure everything looks okay, and that nothing (or no one!) is left behind. Check whether all windows and doors are closed and locked up, and that electricity, water and gas supplies switched off before you move out.