

# Be prepared for moving day



Mercury Energy

Moving house is never easy, but it can be a little less stressful if you're properly prepared, well in advance. Take a few moments to read through our checklist and make sure you have everything in order before moving day.

Tick off the items as you complete the countdown to moving day. Not every item will be relevant to you, and we've left some space at the end of each section for you to add anything particular to your move. You may even find that we've included a few items you'd forgotten.

We hope you have a stress-free move.

## FOUR WEEKS BEFORE YOU MOVE

- Decide whether you need a professional moving firm or not. If you're thinking of moving yourself, look into the costs involved. Several journeys over long distances can quickly add up, it may well be worth hiring the professionals.
- Check with your home and contents insurer to see if you are covered during the move.
- If you are renting, ensure you give sufficient notice to your landlord .
- Begin sorting through the things to be moved. Sell or give away anything you no longer want or need.
- Arrange for a friend or relative to help look after your children and/or pets on moving day.
- Ensure you explain to young children in advance what is happening so that they know what to expect. If possible, show them the new house.
- Notify your children's old and new schools of leaving and arrival dates.
- Pick up change of address cards from NZ Post Shops to be sent to friends and family.
- 
- 

## A FORTNIGHT BEFORE YOU MOVE

- Notify your electricity, gas, water, telephone, pay TV and Internet provider that you will be moving home.
- Send change of address cards.
- Arrange with NZ Post for your mail to be redirected to your new address.
- Cancel deliveries of newspapers, milk etc; pay off any outstanding accounts.
- Return any library books and items borrowed from friends and neighbours.
- Inform your existing doctor, dentist and optician; research new ones close to where you're moving.
- Put all your documents and valuables in a single safe place that will remain easily accessible throughout your move.
- Tell your employer and book leave if necessary.
- Start to pack your possessions if you're doing the move yourself.
- 
-

## IN THE LAST WEEK BEFORE YOU MOVE

- Pack a bag with a change of clothes, essential toiletries and a 'survival kit' for the other end, don't forget a loo roll.
- Prepare a moving day tool kit including light bulbs, fuses, tools (at least a screwdriver and pliers), candles, matches, cash, phone charger and a list of important telephone numbers.
- Gaffer (Duct) tape is your friend. Get a roll and add it to your toolkit along with some rope and a lot of string.
- Do any last-minute laundry at least a couple of days before you move so you can pack clean clothes.
- Check where you can pick up the keys for your new home.
- Remove any garden plants you're planning to move to your new house.
- Notify your bank and insurance company of your new address. If you have magazines or newspapers delivered, notify the subscriptions office.

## TWO DAYS BEFORE YOU MOVE

- Empty, defrost and dry out your fridge and freezer.
- Seal food packets, bottles or jars with tape to prevent any spillage.
- Make sure there will be enough space for removal vans at both addresses.

## THE DAY BEFORE YOU MOVE

- Pick up the keys for your new home.
- Prepare plants for travel.
- Fully charge your mobile phone.
- Prepare food and drink for moving day: tea and coffee (sugar and milk too), juice, fruit, bread, cheese and finger foods like pasties.
- Pack some plates, cups, cutlery, a sharp knife, tin opener and the kettle. You may find a corkscrew or bottle opener handy too.
- Get a good night's sleep.

## MOVING DAY

- Read the electricity, water and gas meters in your old and new homes and take a note of the readings.
- Strip the beds and keep the linen handy so you can pull it out for the first night in the new house.
- Once the final load is ready to go, check every room (and the shed, garage or under house area) to make sure nothing has been left behind and all power points and taps are turned off.
- Switch off the hot water cylinder.

