

Helping one of our members move is a great opportunity to show the love of Christ in serving one another, bearing someone else's burden, and modeling good works (Gal 6:2; Titus 3:8, 14). To assure you do not add unexpected, unreasonable, and unnecessary tasks upon your church family who desire to help you move, the elders recommend below what the proper preparation and planning looks like to ensure the body is successful in supporting the move.

6-8 Weeks Before Your Move

- Contact your Shepherd leader and let them know you will need moving support
- Conduct walk-throughs of every room for a first pass of sorting items.
- Begin decluttering and purging items you no longer want or haven't used in over a year — donate or give away what you can.
- Begin to get rid of things you will not be moving
- Designate a low-traffic area of your home for staging where you'll keep packed boxes, supplies, and other necessities for your move.
- Begin packing non-essential items, such as seasonal belongings or the stuff in your storage closet.
- Shepherd Leader may (assign, delegate or recommend) a point-person to work with the (individual/family) planning to move.

4-6 Weeks Before Your Move

- With your initial sorting and purging complete, take a second pass and begin packing items like décor, toys, books, and clothing that don't see frequent use.
- If you need additional packing materials, ask your shepherd leader as they may be available
- Remember to label every box with the corresponding room in the new house.
- Consider packing items that don't see frequent use--perhaps add kitchen items/tools & dishes that are not essential in the next 4-6 weeks.
- Use or toss refrigerator, freezer & pantry items that are expired or unnecessary

3-4 Weeks Before Your Move

- Continue packing each room as you're able.
- Call utility companies and set up service stoppage and start dates for both your current home and your new one.
- Plan meals that use up items in the freezer, fridge, or pantry that will be difficult or inconvenient to bring with you.
- Consider renting a dumpster or larger drop box, a month prior to the planned move date. DISPOSE of things that you don't absolutely need. Avoid moving something worthless then disposing of it at the new location.

Two Weeks Before Your Move

- Confirm your moving date with Shepherd leader
- Schedule any services, such as house cleaning or carpet shampooing, for either your current home or your new one.

MOVE SUPPORT CHECK LIST

- Finish packing everything except essential items.

One Week Before Your Move

- Pack remaining items in each room.
- Pack overnight bags for each member of your family, plus other immediate-need essentials, such as toilet paper and an extra phone charger. These will stay with you in your own vehicle during the move.
- Make a final donation drop-off
- Bag all trash
- Recommend asking another person (perhaps the Shepherd Leader's point-person) to do a walk-through with them, checking drawers, cupboards, yard, etc.

Final Days Before Your Move

- Get keys to the new place.
- Confirm once again with Shepherd leader, including arrival time and any other important information.
- Ensure everything is packed
- Disassemble furniture or have tools available for disassembly
- Clean your home.
- Make plans for the moving truck if needed.
- **Final check...everything packed?**

Move day

- Ensure loose items are in boxes
- Remove linens from beds
- Check all rooms for misplaced or remaining items
- Label boxes for destination in new location
- Pack freezer and refrigerator items for the move

IMPORTANT NOTES:

If you have other tasks, such as new or used furniture you are buying that need acquired from different locations, those tasks are NOT part of a move, those are separate tasks. Please do not split up the moving party to do tasks that do not have direct application to the move itself. If you plan to get new things, have those ready before or after the move day since those tasks do not require a large group.

If you do not have everything (at least most of everything) in boxes and ready to move, **this is a form of laziness called neglect. Give yourself sufficient time to prepare so that you do not exasperate others with your lack of preparation.** This may involve asking one or two people from church to come help pack in the weeks prior to your move.