

Your International Moving Checklist

The key to a successful move is planning!

Use this handy checklist for a stress-free moving day.

■ Magna Thomson can take care of this for you.

At least 3 months before

- Book your flights.
- **Apply for passports and visas.**
- Terminate your lease if applicable.
- Consider whether you will ship your furniture or buy furniture at your destination. Let your moving company know if you need **storage facilities**.
- Create a move budget.
- Get moving quotes** (at least three). Remember to insure your belongings.
- If you are moving as a family, learn about your new home country together and discuss the move with your children.
- **Research schooling options.**
- **Start looking for temporary accommodation in your destination country.**

2 months before

- Sort through your belongings and resell or donate what you aren't taking with. Be ruthless.
- Make a detailed inventory of everything accompanying you on your move. Assign each item a monetary value.
- **If pets are travelling with you, get their travel crates so that they can get used to spending time in them and feel safe and secure on the journey.**
- Notify the children's schools, request their transcripts.
- Cancel or transfer your membership at the gym, yoga studio, CrossFit facility, etc., internet, telephone, magazine subscriptions.
- Have your vehicle serviced if it's making the journey with you.
- Use or donate items that you aren't taking with but can't sell.

4 weeks before

- Obtain packing supplies** and start packing a little bit every day.
- Gather all financial, legal, and medical records in one place.
- Cancel the debit order for your rent (if applicable).
- Gather birth certificates and passports for everyone making the journey.
- Request copies of vet records and get any necessary pet medication and vaccinations.
- **If you live in a complex, obtain moving and/or parking permits if necessary.**
- **Establish building restrictions for move hours if applicable.**
- **Arrange elevator access if necessary.**
- Clean and dry your tools, garden furniture and kitchen utensils to avoid mould during the transport. This is particularly important if you are moving to a humid climate.

The day before

- Return borrowed items from neighbours, family, and friends.
- Unplug your fridge and freezer to defrost the night before.
- Pack an essentials box with everything you'll need for the first 24 hours in your new home.
- **If you are shipping your vehicle as well, remember to drain the fuel tank prior to transport.**
- Make sure your important documents are all in one place and within easy reach: plane tickets, identity documents, passports, etc.
- Put aside essential medications and make sure you take them with you.
- Have everything ready for the movers to ensure a smooth process.
- Organise a pet/babysitter to help reduce the stress.

Moving Day

- **Protect your floors and carpets for the move.**
- If you are a tenant, make a final inventory of fixtures, noting every detail (damage, breakages, malfunctions, etc.).
- Turn off the electricity, water and gas.
- Note down meter numbers to avoid any misunderstanding with the landlord.
- Check that your electronic and household appliances are working in front of the moving crew before they are loaded for transport.