FREE E-GUIDE

Move in 8 Weeks

A calm countdown guide + planner for your next move

Week-by-week declutter, packing, utilities, address changes (official links only), moving day, and your first 30 days — paired with a live spreadsheet planner.

> Important: This is not legal advice on leases, deposits, or contracts. Not tax advice. Not financial advice. Use it as an organizational system only.

Free edition

English · Global (US / UK / CA / AU appendices)

Before you start

This is not legal advice on leases, deposits, landlord/tenant rights, contracts, or notice periods. It is not tax advice and not financial advice. Budget figures you track are your private notes only — not recommendations. Country appendices list official government or postal links only; we do not paraphrase those rules. Sample names and numbers are fictional. No brand endorsements.

AI disclosure: This guide was made with AI tools and checked by our automated review process before publishing. No human expert has reviewed it. Interior diagrams are original code-drawn graphics.

Companion free planner: https://novablueprint.pages.dev/products/move-in-8-weeks.html?utm_source=eguide&utm_medium=pdf&utm_campaign=move_in_8_weeks&utm_content=planner_cta

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1. Why an 8-week countdown works

Moves fail quietly: a utility left on, a box with no label, a key handoff never written down. An eight-week countdown turns a vague date into finishable weekly tasks. You do not need a perfect plan — you need a visible next action every week.



Weeks relative to move day (0) then first 30 days

Relative weeks from move day.

This guide pairs with a spreadsheet planner: timeline countdown from your move date, room inventory, box log, utilities/address checklist, and a budget sheet that only totals numbers you enter.

> Reminder: We will not tell you whether to break a lease, how much deposit you should get back, or what you can deduct on taxes. For those questions, use qualified local advice and official government sites.

What you will finish by move day

- A dated task list keyed to your move date
- Every box labeled and logged
- A utilities/address checklist with confirmation fields
- A personal cost log (not a recommended budget)
- A first-week unpack plan for sleep, cooking, and work basics

2. Weeks -8 to -5: decide, declutter, measure

Week -8. Lock the move date in planner Settings. List rooms. Start declutter triage: keep / donate / sell / trash. Do not pack junk you already decided to discard.

Week -7. Measure large furniture against notes about the new space. Photograph serial numbers for valuables if that helps. Decide what will not fit — sell or donate early.

Week -6. Inventory packing supplies. Collect quotes for movers or trucks if you want comparisons — log them as facts on the Quotes sheet. No vendor in this guide is endorsed.

Week -5. Pack non-essentials: guest room, seasonal clothes, rarely used kitchen tools. Label every box as you close it.

3. Weeks -4 to -2: book, pack, notify

Week -4. Choose your transport option based on your own quotes and constraints. Start the Utilities & Address checklist. Open Country Links for official postal and government URLs — read the rules there, not here.

Week -3. Pack most rooms. Keep an essentials kit aside. Confirm building access, elevator slots, or parking if required.

Week -2. Finish kitchen non-dailies. Plan freezer food. Confirm helpers, pet care, or childcare for move day. Update timeline statuses so nothing silent ages out.

> If a notice period or deposit return is involved, follow your written agreement and local law — this guide does not interpret them.

4. Week -1 and move day

Week -1. Pack an essentials suitcase: documents, chargers, medications, a change of clothes, basic toiletries, bedding for night one. Confirm keys or access codes. Do a final walkthrough list for the old place.

Move day. Protect floors if needed. Load room-by-room. Keep the Box Log handy. Hydrate. Photograph empty rooms and meter readings if useful for your own records. Hand off keys only when you are ready per your own arrangement.

Not legal / tax advice · Official links only in appendices

5. First 30 days

Night one: beds, bathrooms, phone charging, something to eat. Week one: kitchen basics, work setup, trash service. Days 2–30: finish unpacking by priority, complete remaining address changes using official sites, update Budget actuals with what you really spent.

Close timeline tasks as Done. Archive the planner when the move is complete — or keep the Box Log until every box is unpacked.

Not legal / tax advice · Official links only in appendices

6. Box labels and inventory habits

Every closed box gets an ID (for example K-01 for kitchen). Write room origin, short contents, fragile yes/no, and unpack priority on the label and in the Box Log. The Inventory sheet is for item-level decisions (keep/donate/sell/trash) before they become boxes.

Habit: no anonymous boxes. Future-you should know what is inside without opening ten cartons.

7. Utilities and address changes (process only)

Use the checklist categories: utilities, home admin, mail, government, finance, health, life, school, pets. For each row: note who to contact, target date, done flag, confirmation number. That is process tracking — not advice about what you are legally required to do.

Government and postal steps: open Appendix A (and the Country Links sheet). Click the official URL. Follow the instructions published there.

> Compliance: We do not paraphrase lease, deposit, tax, or change-of-address rules. Official links only.

8. Budget tracking without advice

The Budget sheet has Planned and Actual columns and a Variance formula (planned − actual). Sample amounts are fictional placeholders. Replace them with your numbers. Totals are sums — not recommendations, not forecasts, not tax categories.

If a cost might be deductible or reimbursable, ask a qualified tax professional or check your official tax authority site. This guide will not say.

Worked example — one fictional household

Alex and Jordan (fictional) set Move Date = 15 Dec in Settings. Their Timeline shows days-until-move automatically. In week -6 they log three truck quotes on Quotes with prices they gathered themselves — the sheet does not pick a winner. They pack seasonal boxes BR1-02 and LR-01, mark fragile monitors on Box Log, and start Utilities Address rows for electricity and internet without writing any legal conclusions.

On move week they keep ESS-01 (essentials) last-on. After arrival they unpack Critical and High priority boxes first, tick Done on timeline rows, and fill Actual costs on Budget. For postal forwarding they open Country Links and use the official USPS or Royal Mail URL for their country — this guide never restates those steps.

> Illustrative only. Your dates, costs, and rules will differ. No outcome is promised.

FAQ — process only

Do I need exactly 8 weeks?
No. Shorten bands if your date is sooner; keep the same habits: dated tasks, labeled boxes, checklist rows.

Can you tell me about my lease or deposit?
No. That is legal territory. Read your agreement and use qualified local help if needed.

Are the budget numbers recommendations?
No. Sample figures are fictional placeholders for formula demos. Enter your own.

Why only official links in the appendix?
We don't paraphrase government rules; check the official page.

Is this financial advice?
No. Tracking spend is not advice about what you should spend or how to finance a move.

9. Use the companion planner

Download the free Move in 8 Weeks Planner (Excel / Google Sheets CSVs):

https://novablueprint.pages.dev/products/move-in-8-weeks.html?utm_source=eguide&utm_medium=pdf&utm_campaign=move_in_8_weeks&utm_content=planner_cta

Guide = method. Planner = live data. Neither is legal, tax, or financial advice.

Companion download

This free e-guide pairs with the free Move in 8 Weeks Planner spreadsheet. use the link above to download the planner. There is no email signup inside this guide.

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Appendix A — Official country links

URLs only. We do not summarize eligibility, fees, or timelines. Verify on the live page.

US	USPS MoversGuide	https://moversguide.usps.com/
US	USPS Forward mail	https://www.usps.com/manage/forward.htm
US	USA.gov change of address	https://www.usa.gov/change-address
US	IRS address changes FAQ	https://www.irs.gov/faqs/irs-procedures/address-changes
UK	GOV.UK	https://www.gov.uk/
UK	DVLA change address	https://www.gov.uk/change-address-driving-licence
UK	Royal Mail redirection	https://www.royalmail.com/receiving/redirection
CA	Canada Post Mail Forwarding	https://www.canadapost-postescanada.ca/cpc/en/personal/receiving/manage-mail/mail-forwarding.page
CA	CRA change address	https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/topics/about-your-tax-return/change-your-address.html
AU	Australia Post redirect mail	https://auspost.com.au/personal/receiving/mail-redirection-and-mail-hold/redirection
AU	myGov	https://my.gov.au/
AU	ATO	https://www.ato.gov.au/

Appendix B — Suggested packing room order

A common order (adapt freely): storage → guest rooms → books/decor → closets → office non-dailies → kitchen non-dailies → bathrooms extras → daily kitchen last → essentials kit never sealed into the truck floor.

Mark fragile on both the box and the Box Log. Keep cleaning tools accessible until the final walkthrough.

Not legal / tax advice · Official links only in appendices

Appendix C — Moving-day checklist

☐ Essentials kit loaded in the car / last-on truck

☐ Box Log printed or phone-ready

☐ Keys / codes / parking plan confirmed

☐ Meters / empty-room photos if you want them

☐ Old place final walkthrough

☐ Snacks, water, phone chargers

☐ Someone responsible for pets / kids plan

☐ Night-one beds and bathroom setup at destination

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