

The weeks leading up to the day you take possession of your new home can be as exhausting as they are exciting. Keep track of the details as you count down to closing day:

Two Months Before

- Give rental notice.
- Select a moving company.
- If you're doing your own packing, begin packing items you won't need during this time.
- Sell or give away unneeded items.

Six Weeks Before

- Make records of belongings/valuables and insure if required.
- Make arrangements to store items if necessary.
- Obtain copies of personal records (e.g. medical, dental, academic) if you will be switching providers.

Four Weeks Before

- Notify post office of change of address and send change of address cards.
- Notify utility and phone providers of change of address and arrange for connection at new address.
- Confirm move details with mover.
- Get boxes from the mover and continue packing.

Two Weeks Before

- Draw up floor plan of your new home and provide to the moving company with instructions on locating furniture. Label furniture accordingly.
- Arrange for childcare and pet sitting on moving day.
- If discarding bulky items, make arrangements according to municipal requirements.
- Arrange necessary move and related insurance costs.

One Week Before

- Take down any fixtures that you plan to bring with you.
- Pack a moving day travel bag with essentials, such as a change of clothes and toiletries.
- Label items to be moved in the car.
- Have your lawyer/notary advise you of the exact amount owing, then have your certified cheque or bank draft prepared accordingly.

Moving Day

- Review directions with mover.
- Save all copies of moving documentation.
- Before leaving, check each room carefully: close windows, turn off water and appliances and lock doors.
- Notify landlord that property is vacant.
- Leave forwarding information.

Closing Day

Here's what you can expect to take place on closing day:

- All the appropriate documentation should be with your lawyer/notary.
- With your lawyer/notary, review the statement of adjustments, which details the exact amount you owe the vendor on closing.
- You should have a certified cheque or bank draft payable to your lawyer/notary to cover these costs and your legal fees and disbursements.
- Your mortgage representative will provide your mortgage funds to your lawyer/notary, who will issue payment to the vendor.
- Your lawyer/notary will arrange for you to pick up your keys.