

When the completion date's in the diary, you can start getting ready for the big move.

Leading up to the move

	Tell people you're moving	There's a handy checklist of who to tell over the page.
	Have a clear out	Get rid of anything you don't want so you don't have to lug it to the new place.
	Go furniture shopping	Order any furniture or appliances you need so they arrive in the new pad just after you move in.
	Book the movers	Or hire a van if you can move everything yourself. Remember, if you're using professionals, moving on a week-day could be cheaper. Get insurance for your belongings in transit - some removal companies offer it so double check. Give the movers a plan of where you want everything to go in the new place.
	Get packing	Start packing the non-essentials early. Don't over-pack your boxes so they're too heavy. Label your boxes so you know which room they go in when you get to your new home.
	Round up the spare keys	Get your spares off friends and neighbours and give them to the estate agents.
	Arrange a babysitter	If you have kids, see if they can go to their friends' or grandparents' for the move.

On the day

	Pack an essentials bag	Put the things you're likely to need first – kettle, mugs and tea, your toothbrush – in a separate bag or box so you can get to them easily.
	Read the meters	Get readings before you leave your old home and when you get to the new place for more accurate bills.
	Clean the new house	If you can clean your house before you move your things in it will make the place feel like home a lot quicker.

Who to tell: address change checklist

Don't forget to give your new address to companies, as well as your family and friends, so everyone knows where you are. Use our checklist to tick them off as you go.

Money		Insurance	
	Banks		Car insurance / breakdown cover
	Building societies		Home insurance
	Credit card companies		Life insurance / payment protection
	Loan companies		Health / dental insurance
	Premium bonds (NS&I)		Travel insurance
	Pension companies		Pet insurance
Utilities and services		Healthcare	
	Royal Mail redirection		Dentist
	Council tax		Doctor
	Electricity		Optician
	Gas		Vet
	Water		Others (osteopath, chiropractor etc)
	Phone	Government departments	
	Broadband		HM Revenue & Customs
	Mobile phone		Electoral Registration Office
	TV licence		DVLA (Driver's licence)
	Cable / satellite	Clubs and memberships	
	Cleaner		Store cards (like Nectar)
	Gardener		Gym
Online			Cinema / theatre
	Online stores		Newspapers / magazines
	PayPal	Work and education	
	Subscriptions		School / college / university
Legal			Employers
	Solicitor		Professional bodies
	Accountant	Other	
	Financial adviser		