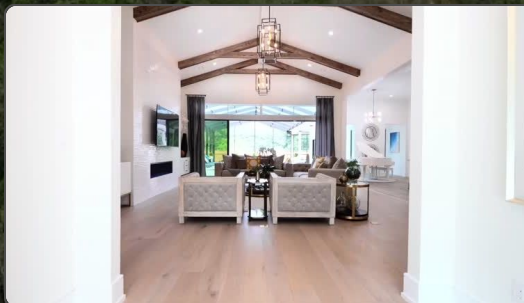


TEXAS MOVING CHECKLIST

Your Complete 90-Day Moving System

By Katie Foley

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THE 90-DAY MOVING TIMELINE

Days 1–30 After Contract Acceptance

Week 1 — Immediately After Going Under Contract

- ☐ Celebrate! Take a breath. Then get organized.
- ☐ Request and review all HOA documents (if applicable)
- ☐ Schedule home inspection within your option period
- ☐ Begin researching moving companies — get 3+ quotes
- ☐ Start researching utilities for your new address

Week 2 — Inspection & Due Diligence

- ☐ Attend home inspection
- ☐ Review inspection report with your Realtor
- ☐ Make repair requests or negotiate credits
- ☐ Research homeowner's insurance; get quotes
- ☐ Begin decluttering current home — non-essentials first



Week 3–4 — Finance Finalization

- ☐ Respond to any lender requests quickly (this is critical — delays kill closings)
- ☐ Lock in homeowner's insurance provider
- ☐ Hire moving company and reserve your moving date
- ☐ Start a "donation box" in each room for items not moving with you
- ☐ Research schools if applicable; contact district

Days 30–60 Before Closing

Month 2 — Packing Begins

- ☐ Purchase packing supplies (boxes, tape, bubble wrap, markers)
- ☐ Label every box: ROOM + brief contents description + FRAGILE if needed
- ☐ Start with rooms used least: spare rooms, seasonal items, décor, books
- ☐ Disassemble and pack items you rarely use
- ☐ Continue donating — less to move = lower moving cost
- ☐ Sell items online or via garage sale



Pre-Closing Admin

- Set up mail forwarding with USPS (can be done online at usps.com)
- Begin notifying people of address change (see list below)
- Research utility setup timing at new address
- Confirm closing time and what to bring

2 Weeks Before Closing

Final Packing Push

- ☐ All rooms except daily essentials should be mostly packed
- ☐ Pack kitchen except what you're using daily
- ☐ Pack bedrooms except bedding you're sleeping on
- ☐ Pack garage and outdoor items



Logistics

- ☐ Confirm moving company — date, time, address, any access codes
- ☐ Confirm utilities at new home (set to start on closing day)
- ☐ Schedule disconnect of utilities at current home (moving day or next day)
- ☐ Confirm closing appointment time and location
- ☐ Prepare funds for closing (cashier's check or wire transfer)



Moving Week

Days Before Moving Day

- ☐ Pack your "Open First" box (see below)
- ☐ Pack your "Essentials Bag" (for moving day — things you need immediate access to)
- ☐ Defrost and clean refrigerator and freezer
- ☐ Clean appliances that are staying (if applicable)
- ☐ Disconnect TV and electronics; cable/wrap cords

Moving Day

- ☐ Be ready before movers arrive
- ☐ Walk movers through the home; note any special handling needs
- ☐ Keep children and pets secured and out of the way
- ☐ Do a final walk of every room, closet, cabinet, and storage area
- ☐ Check: attic, crawlspace, shed, garage, under decks
- ☐ Note and photograph any damage to your rental or previous home
- ☐ Return keys, fobs, and access items for old home (to landlord or as agreed)

At Your New Home

- ☐ Guide movers to correct rooms for each box
- ☐ Inspect any items for damage during move (note immediately if found)
- ☐ Set up your "Open First" box in the kitchen
- ☐ Test all lights, water, and HVAC before movers leave
- ☐ Check that all utilities are working





PACKING CHECKLIST

(Room-by-Room Packing Order)

Pack First (Least Used)

1. Spare bedrooms / guest room
2. Seasonal items (holiday décor, off-season clothing)
3. Books, décor, art
4. Garage (tools, equipment)
5. Basement or storage spaces

Pack Second

6. Living room (non-essential décor, books, extra pillows)
7. Dining room
8. Secondary bathrooms
9. Home office

Pack Last (Day Before/Of)

10. Master bedroom
11. Kitchen essentials
12. Daily bathroom items
13. Bedding you're currently using



The "Open First" Box

Pack this LAST and load it LAST so it comes off the truck FIRST.

This box should contain everything you need for the first 24 hours in your new home:

- ☐ Paper plates, cups, and plastic utensils
- ☐ Coffee maker + coffee + mugs
- ☐ Dish soap and sponge
- ☐ Paper towels and toilet paper
- ☐ Basic cleaning supplies (all-purpose spray, trash bags)
- ☐ Shower curtain + rings (if not included in home)
- ☐ 1–2 towels per person
- ☐ Basic toiletries
- ☐ Phone chargers
- ☐ Basic medications and first aid kit
- ☐ A complete change of clothes per family member
- ☐ Snacks and easy-prep food for day 1
- ☐ Scissors, tape, and markers
- ☐ Trash bags (large)
- ☐ Kids' comfort items if applicable



ADDRESS CHANGE CHECKLIST

Notify These People/Companies of Your New Address

Financial

- ☐ Bank (checking and savings accounts)
- ☐ Investment accounts / 401k / IRA
- ☐ Credit cards
- ☐ Mortgage company (if applicable)
- ☐ Student loan servicer

Government

- ☐ USPS mail forwarding (usps.com — do this first)
- ☐ IRS (update address via [IRS.gov](https://irs.gov) or next tax return)
- ☐ Social Security Administration (ssa.gov)
- ☐ Texas DMV — vehicle registration within 30 days (txdmv.gov)
- ☐ Texas DPS — driver's license within 30 days (dps.texas.gov)
- ☐ Voter registration (vote.org)

Insurance

- ☐ Homeowner's insurance
- ☐ Auto insurance
- ☐ Life insurance
- ☐ Health insurance
- ☐ Any other insurance policies

Employer & Professional

- ☐ HR / payroll department (for W-2 purposes)
- ☐ Professional associations or licensing boards
- ☐ Business contacts if self-employed

Services & Subscriptions

- ☐ Amazon, eBay, other online shopping accounts
- ☐ Magazine and publication subscriptions
- ☐ Streaming services (some are billing-only)
- ☐ Gym membership
- ☐ Professional services (accountant, attorney, etc.)

Healthcare

- ☐ Primary care physician
- ☐ Dentist
- ☐ Specialists
- ☐ Pharmacy (can transfer prescriptions)
- ☐ Children's pediatrician and school health records

Personal

- ☐ Family and close friends
- ☐ Church or religious organization
- ☐ Clubs, organizations, or associations
- ☐ Children's schools (if not already handled)
- ☐ Veterinarian



FAMILY TRANSITION CHECKLIST

Making the Move Easier for the Whole Family

For Families with Children:

- ☐ Talk to children about the move early and honestly — age-appropriate conversations reduce anxiety
- ☐ Let children have input on their new rooms where possible
- ☐ Visit the new neighborhood and school before move-in if possible
- ☐ Connect with other families in the area (Facebook neighborhood groups, church, school)
- ☐ Maintain routines as much as possible during the transition period

For Pet Owners:

- ☐ Update microchip registration with new address
- ☐ Transfer vet records; find new vet in Navarro County
- ☐ Update pet licenses (if required by local ordinance)
- ☐ Keep pets secured on moving day (consider boarding or a trusted friend's home)
- ☐ Give pets extra attention and routine during the transition

For the Whole Family:

- ☐ Explore the new area together — find your favorite local spots
- ☐ Introduce yourselves to neighbors within the first week
- ☐ Find your new "anchor" places — grocery store, church, park, coffee shop
- ☐ Give it time — 3–6 months is normal for a new place to start feeling like home



FIRST-WEEK HOMEOWNER CHECKLIST

Settling In

Safety First (Day 1):

- ☐ Change all exterior door locks or re-key them
- ☐ Change garage door codes
- ☐ Locate main water shut-off valve
- ☐ Locate electrical panel; understand which breaker controls what
- ☐ Test all smoke detectors
- ☐ Test carbon monoxide detectors
- ☐ Note nearest fire hydrant

Administrative (First Week):

- ☐ File for Texas Homestead Exemption (Navarro County Appraisal District; before April 30)
- ☐ Confirm all utilities are set up in your name
- ☐ Register vehicles if coming from out of state (within 30 days)
- ☐ Update driver's license address (within 30 days)
- ☐ Set up trash pickup if not automatic

Getting Settled:

- ☐ Unpack and organize room by room — don't try to do it all on day 1
- ☐ Locate nearest: hospital, urgent care, pharmacy, grocery store
- ☐ Introduce yourself to your neighbors
- ☐ Note your home's quirks — every home has them

Welcome Home

Moving is stressful, but it leads to something wonderful: a home of your own, in a place you've chosen. The hard part ends. The good part is just beginning.

If you have any questions before, during, or after your move, I'm here.



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