

# Moving Out & Relocation Guide

Moving out of your home and relocating—whether locally or internationally- can be a major life event. This guide provides a detailed, practical roadmap for South African homeowners who are preparing to move after selling their property. Whether you're downsizing, moving across town, or heading overseas, this checklist ensures you won't overlook any essential steps.

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- Grab my comprehensive 'Sole Mandate Guide & Checklist' [HERE](#)
  - Grab my comprehensive 'Property Seller's & Buyer's Checklist' [HERE](#)
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## **1. Start with a Master Plan**

- Create a moving timeline with key dates: transfer registration, moving day, school terms, etc.
- Begin collecting quotes for moving companies or rental trailers.
- Decide whether you'll do the packing yourself or hire professionals.

## **2. Declutter Before You Pack**

- Go room by room and sort items into categories: keep, sell, donate, or toss.
- Reduce the cost and stress of moving by only taking what you truly need.
- Schedule charity pickups for donations and junk removal services for discarded items.

## **3. Pack Like a Pro**

- Invest in quality boxes, packing tape, bubble wrap, and markers.
- Label each box clearly with contents and the destination room.
- Keep an essentials box for the first day at your new home (toiletries, kettle, chargers, keys, etc).
- Photograph electronics before unplugging them for easy reassembly.

## **4. Update Your Details and Notify Service Providers**

- Inform banks, insurance companies, SARS, medical aid providers, and loyalty programmes.
- Notify the municipality, Eskom, Telkom, fibre providers, and your local post office.
- Arrange for final readings on electricity and water meters and request clearance figures.

## **5. Coordinate with Your Buyer and Agent**

- Confirm transfer timelines and handover arrangements with your estate agent or conveyancer.
- Schedule a final inspection of your property with the buyer if needed.
- Provide keys, remotes, alarm codes, and instruction manuals for appliances or irrigation systems.

## **6. Clean and Leave it Tidy**

- Clean the home thoroughly or hire a cleaning service.

- Empty bins and remove food from fridges and pantries.
- Fix any agreed-upon repairs or hand over in 'as is' condition if contractually allowed.

## 7. Move Day Logistics

- Confirm the time and address with your movers the day before.
- Supervise the loading process to ensure care is taken.
- Check your old home one last time: cupboards, attic, garden, and garage.

## 8. Settling Into Your New Home

- Unpack essential rooms first: kitchen, bedrooms, and bathroom.
- Test security, plumbing, electricity, and internet.
- Take new meter readings for your records.

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**9. Moving Abroad? Consider These Key Differences:** Relocating to another country requires more preparation, paperwork, and patience. Here are a few extra steps to consider:

- **Passports & Visas:** Ensure all family members have valid passports and apply for the correct visas well in advance.
- **International Moving Services:** Hire a reputable international mover with experience in customs regulations.
- **Customs Declarations:** Know what you can and cannot bring. Declare high-value items and ensure your paperwork is accurate.
- **Healthcare & Insurance:** Cancel local medical aid and research healthcare options in your destination country.
- **Financial Setup:** Inform SARS of your move, understand tax implications, and open international bank accounts where needed.
- **Schooling & Housing Abroad:** Research schools and secure temporary or permanent housing before arrival.
- **Foreign Exchange Transfers:** Work with a forex provider to manage currency transfers and reduce exchange fees.
- **Language and Cultural Differences:** Consider cultural orientation or language support if you're moving to a non-English-speaking country.
- **Legal & Immigration Support:** Consult with an immigration attorney or relocation specialist to smooth the transition.

Moving abroad can be exciting and complex, but with proper planning, it becomes a manageable and rewarding experience.

## **Moving Checklist – South Africa Edition**

### ☐ **6–8 Weeks Before Moving**

- Create a moving folder (digital or physical).
- Begin researching moving companies or trailer rentals.
- Declutter and sort belongings: keep, donate, toss, sell.
- Request quotes and confirm moving dates.
- Notify your landlord (if applicable).
- Check transfer and occupation dates with your estate agent or attorney.

#### ☐ **4 Weeks Before Moving**

- Begin packing non-essentials and seasonal items.
- Label boxes by room and contents.
- Organise utility cancellations or transfers (water, electricity, internet).
- Arrange for the transfer of DSTV, security systems, fibre, etc.
- Order packaging materials (boxes, tape, bubble wrap).

#### ☐ **2 Weeks Before Moving**

- Confirm bookings with movers.
- Redirect mail and update address with:
  - SARS, banks, loyalty cards
  - Telkom/Eskom/fibre provider
  - Insurance and medical aid
- Schedule municipal meter readings and clearance figures.

#### ☐ **1 Week Before Moving**

- Finalise packing and box inventory.
- Pack essentials box (toiletries, towels, snacks, kettle, chargers).
- Empty, defrost, and clean fridge/freezer.
- Make key copies for handover (garage, gate, alarm).
- Book a cleaning team for move-out.

#### ☐ **Moving Day**

- Supervise the loading process.
- Take final water & electricity meter readings.
- Leave behind user manuals, remotes, and spares.
- Lock up and hand over keys to the buyer or agent.

#### ☐ **After the Move**

- Unpack essential rooms first: bathroom, bedrooms, and kitchen.
- Take meter readings in the new home.
- Check alarm and security systems.
- Notify your neighbourhood watch or complex manager.
- Celebrate your new beginning!

### **Referral Bonus Score R10,000!**

Do you know someone selling in Knysna, Sedgefield, Wilderness, or Mossel Bay? Please send them my way. Once I secure their mandate and sell, I'll pay you **R10,000** within one week of the registration of the sold property. Or I'll donate it to a charity of your choice.

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