



# Moving Overseas Checklist

For the full interactive checklist including resources relating to each task visit  
<https://www.shipit.co.uk/moving-overseas-checklist>

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## AT LEAST 2 MONTHS BEFORE YOUR MOVE

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### Start Arranging Your Moving Service

The international removals process can take some time so it's best to research and arrange your shipping options early.

### State Benefits

If you are the beneficiary of any type of state benefit such as maternity leave, illness or injury benefits, or disability benefits then you must notify the relevant benefits departments.

### Visas and Permits

Contact foreign consulates or research any visa requirements for your international journey, work or residence requirements. Ensure your required visas or work permits are in place or in the pipeline.

### Apply for International NHS Cover

Depending on your destination country you may be eligible for a UK Global Health Insurance Card or UK European Health Insurance Card.

### Update Insurance

Review policies and ensure you can have cover in place at your new location for health, home, and vehicles.

Car Insurance

Home Insurance

Health Insurance

### Notify the DVLA

Change address on driver's license, apply for any refunds if necessary.

### Cancel UK Subscriptions

Start cancelling subscriptions for UK specific magazines, memberships, and online services. Anything not needed abroad.

### Join Expat Communities

Consider joining online expat communities to seek destination specific advice and make connections.

### Transfer Pension

Notify the International Pension Centre you are moving overseas to discuss pension options.

### Check Passports

Check that your passports are valid and up to date. Even if your passports are valid, it is recommended to renew if expiring any time soon.

### Notify HMRC

Ensure you are still following proper tax regulations and notify HMRC that you will be leaving the UK

### Notify Your Bank

Set up international transfers, close/change accounts, cancel or change necessary standing orders.

### Notify Your Doctor

You must deregister with your GP when moving abroad. Get medical records and prescriptions ready to be transferred as necessary.

### Decide if You Want to Ship Your Car

Start thinking about whether you want to ship your car or want to get a new vehicle locally.

Contact a car shipping specialist.

Read Government Vehicle Export Guidance

### Declutter

Clear your home of any unwanted clutter. Consider disposing of any surplus furniture or belongings you don't intend to take with you overseas or put into storage.

### Book Flights

Book your flights and advise friends, family and your international movers of your flight times.



### Overseas Accommodation

If you haven't completed a new home sale you should arrange short term let, serviced accommodation, hotels or other temporary accommodation.

### Manage Finances

Consider moving or closing savings accounts and investments in the UK.

### Review Credit Cards

Check which cards work internationally, notify your credit institutions of your address change, or apply for new ones.

### Cancel Utilities

Start cancelling or notifying UK utilities like TV license, phones, electricity, gas, water, TV, and broadband contracts.

**TV License**

**Electricity**

**Gas**

**Water**

**Television**

**Broadband**

**Landline**

### Forward Mail

Set up mail forwarding with Royal Mail to continue receiving stray mail sent to your old address.

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### Pet Transport

Organize pet transport, shipping, and health certificates if you are taking your pet.

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## 1 MONTH BEFORE MOVING

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### Confirm Your Moving Company Booking

Lock in dates for collection, packing and shipping with your international removals company.

If shipping with 1st Move, contact your dedicated Move Coordinator about this if you haven't done so yet.

### Make an Inventory

Depending on where you are moving, you need to provide either a packed inventory, or a valued inventory. We recommend you create a valued inventory of everything you are shipping to be used for personal tracking, as well as part of shipping and customs requirements.

If you are moving with us, then your insurance submission doubles as a regular inventory.

### Settle Outstanding UK Bills

Pay off any regular bills, settle loans and credit lines, take care of other UK obligations.

### Moving Insurance Submission

When shipping with us, now is when you should complete your valued insurance form. It's important we have this before your collection date.

### Customs Documents

To import into some countries, you need to complete Customs Documents.

At 1st Move we provide you with these documents and completion instructions. Give us a call if you need a hand.

### Health Requirements

Ensure you comply with your destination's requirements for immunisations and health paperwork.



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## 1 WEEK BEFORE MOVING

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### Cancel Home Deliveries

Newspapers, order subscriptions, food subscriptions, milk deliveries, pre-orders, and others.

### Confirm Travel Plans

Review airline tickets and accommodation bookings. Make sure your movers, transportation, and pet transport plans are confirmed and on schedule.

### Notify Local Services

Notify your local council and electoral roll you are moving overseas.

Local Council

Electoral Roll

### Arrange Childcare

Make arrangements for childcare on your moving day if necessary.

### Clean Tools

If you are shipping any tools or outdoor equipment ensure they are thoroughly cleaned as these are often scrutinised by foreign customs for bio-security reasons.

### Withdraw Cash

Ensure you have sufficient cash available for travel expenses.

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## 1 DAY BEFORE MOVING

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### Charge Electronics

Charge all your necessary electronics like phone, laptop, tablet, etc. so you're ready for the move.

### Fridges and Freezers

Ensure your refrigerator and freezer are defrosted and dry to prevent any leakage and damage during the move.

### Prepare Travel Essentials

Review airline tickets and accommodation bookings. Make sure your movers, transportation, and pet transport plans are confirmed and on schedule.

Passports

Travel Insurance Documents

Flight Bookings

Toiletries

Medication

Electronics

### Prepare Destination Essentials

Pack a bag with essentials like clothes, toiletries, and other basics that you'll need immediately upon arrival at your new home.

### Fridges and Freezers

Ensure your refrigerator and freezer are defrosted and dry to prevent any leakage and damage during the move.

### Check All Rooms

Do a final check of all rooms, cabinets, and closets to ensure nothing is left behind.

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## ON MOVING DAY

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### Top-up Charge Mobile Phones

Make sure mobile phones, laptops, cameras and other devices are fully charged for the journey.

### Disconnect Appliances

Unplug and clean ovens, washing machines and other appliances so that they are ready for transport.

### Meter Readings

Note final gas, electric, water meter readings as required by utility companies.